
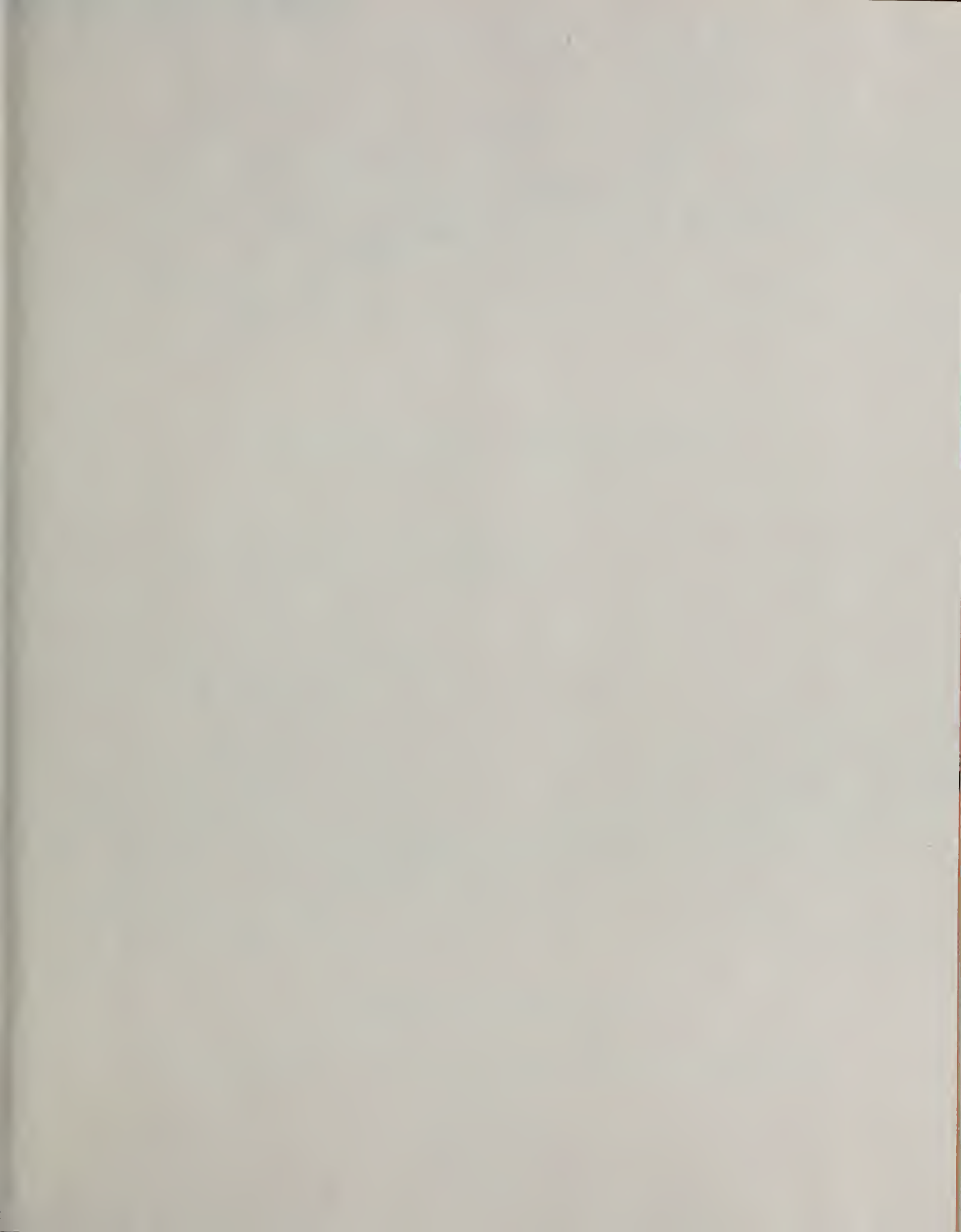


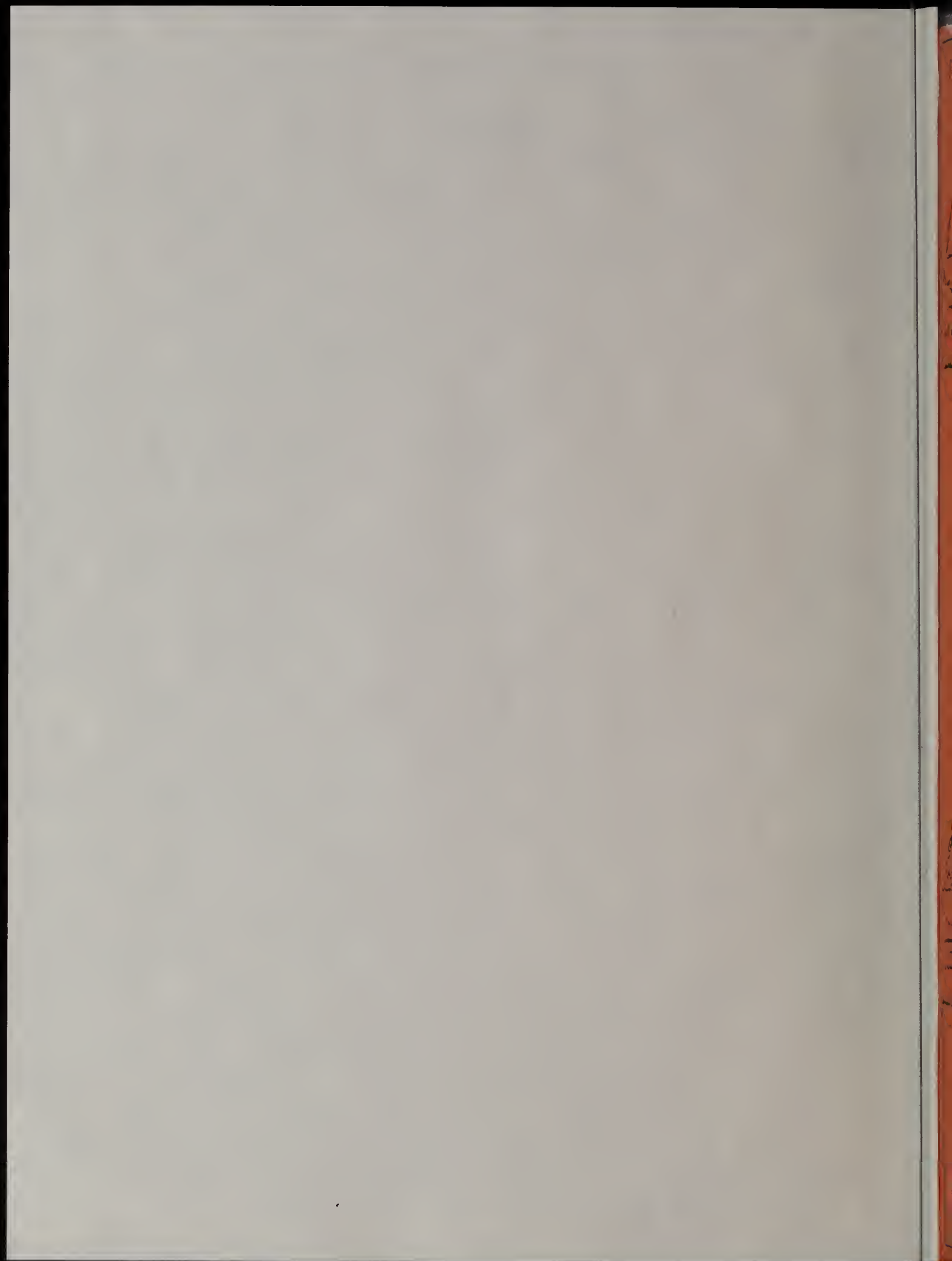
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ANNUAL REPORT

GOVERNMENT DOCUMENTS
COLLECTION

1978

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*Montachusett
Regional Planning Commission*





A N N U A L R E P O R T
O F T H E
M O N T A C H U S E T R E G I O N A L
P L A N N I N G C O M M I S S I O N
F O R
1 9 7 8

Montachusett Regional
Planning Commission
150 Main Street
Fitchburg, Massachusetts 01420

The preparation of this report was financed in part through a Comprehensive Planning Grant, CPA-MA-01-11-1099, from the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development through Section 701 of the Housing Acts of 1954 as amended.

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MONTACHUSETT REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

MEMBERS AND ALTERNATES

MUNICIPALITY	MEMBER	ALTERNATE
ASHBURNHAM		
ASHBY	RICHARD WOODRUFF	SAMUEL SUTCLIFFE
AYER	ROBERT DOUGLAS	HARRIETT MAXANT
CLINTON	EDWARD O'BRIEN	
FITCHBURG	JOYCE HUFF	WILLIAM TUIKKA
FORT DEVENS	ROBERT LEE (NV)	
GARDNER	DAVID LESNESKI	DAVID CURRAN
GROTON	HAINES DANFORTH	NORMA MILLET
HUBBARDSTON	ALBERT CLARK	PETER BUMPUS
LANCASTER	NATHANIEL DEXTER	RICHARD NERONI
LEOMINSTER	STEVE DIPACE	ANTHONY ANGELINI
LUNENBURG	ROBERT EBERSOLE	ELIZABETH BOWRON
SHIRLEY	RICHARD HATCH	
STERLING		DOROTHY ROCKWELL
TEMPLETON	WALTER ROLF	RICHARD JOLY
TOWNSEND	DENNIS JAEHNE	
WESTMINSTER	GEORGE GLASSON	
WINCHENDON	DONALD ROYEA	
DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS	GARY BROWN (NV)	

MONTACHUSETT REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

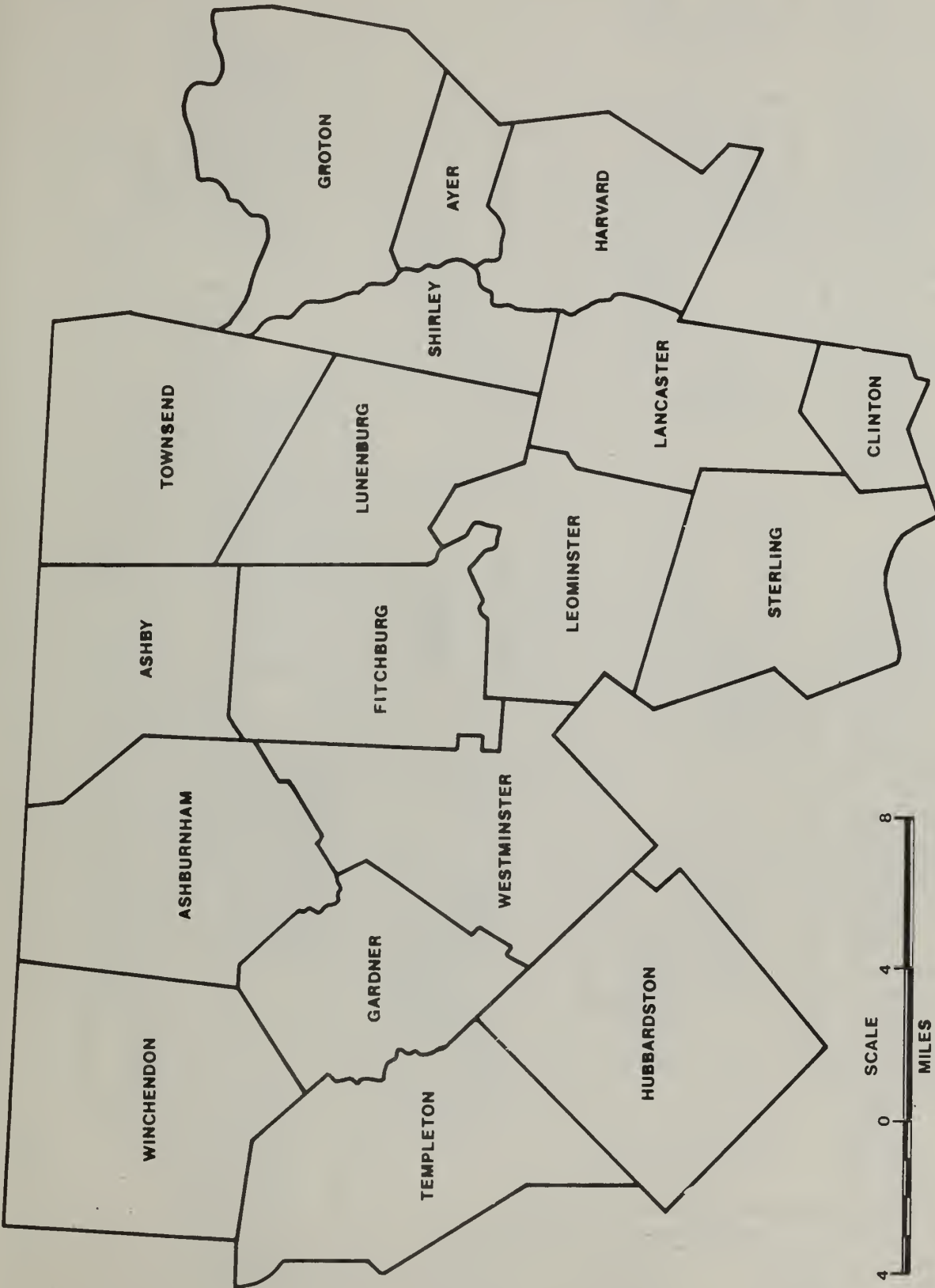
OFFICERS AND STAFF

OFFICERS (1978)

George Glasson, Chairman	Westminster
Nathaniel Dexter, Vice Chairman	Lancaster
Walter Rolf, Secretary	Templeton
Joyce Huff, Treasurer	Fitchburg
Dennis Jaehne, Asst. Treasurer	Townsend

STAFF

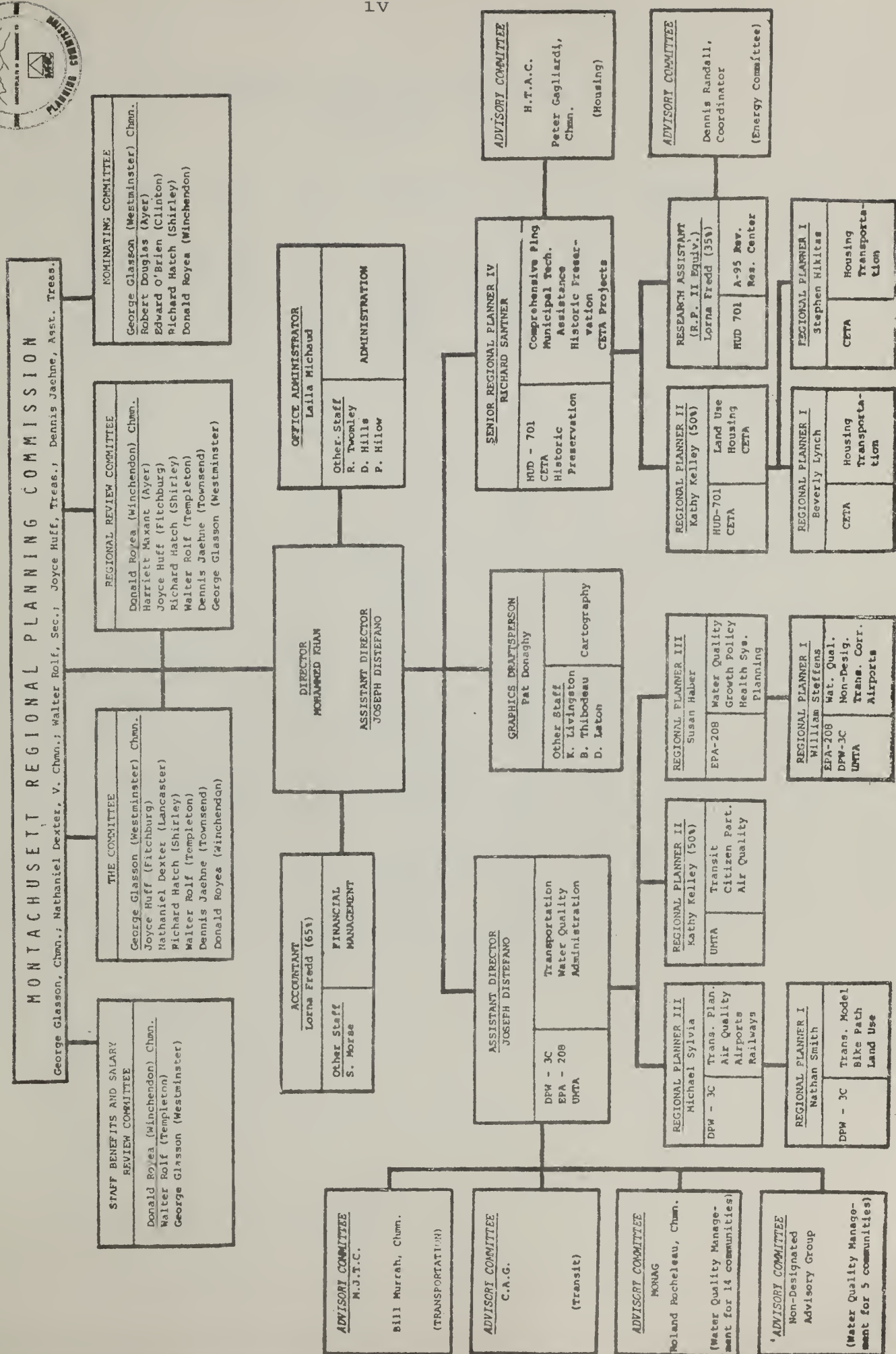
Mohammed Khan	Planning Director
Joseph Distefano	Assistant Director
George Jepson	Regional Planner IV
Richard Santner	Regional Planner IV
Susan Haber	Regional Planner III
Denny Lawton	Regional Planner III
Michael Sylvia	Regional Planner III
Stephen Graham	Regional Planner II
Kathleen Kelley	Regional Planner II
Beth McDonald	Regional Planner II
Ron Beckner	Regional Planner I
Nadia Beiser	Regional Planner I
Robert Blanchflower	Regional Planner I
Scott Britton	Regional Planner I
Vita Capurso	Regional Planner I
David Grossi	Regional Planner I
John Halstead	Regional Planner I
Guy Helander	Regional Planner I
Barbara Lippel	Regional Planner I
Steve Nikitas	Regional Planner I
Steve O'Brien	Regional Planner I
Nathan Smith	Regional Planner I
Francis Trevisani	Regional Planner I
Terry Winters	Historic Preservation Planner
Laila Michaud	Office Administrator
Lorna Fredd	Accountant/Research Asst.
Patricia Donaghy	Graphics/Draftsperson
Donna Hills	Senior Clerk Typist
Elsie Hokkanen	Senior Clerk Typist
Paulette Marek	Senior Clerk Typist
Ruth Twomley	Senior Clerk Typist
Pamela Wilson	Senior Clerk Typist
Pauline Hilow	Clerk Typist
Bonnie Williams	Clerk Typist
Lorie Bernhardt	Bookkeeping Assistant
Susan Morse	Clerical Assistant
Peggy Renaud	Assistant Librarian
Kathy Livingston	Jr. Cartographer
Robert Thibodeau	Jr. Cartographer
Aila Juvonen	Intern
Benny DiNardo	Intern
David Laton	Intern

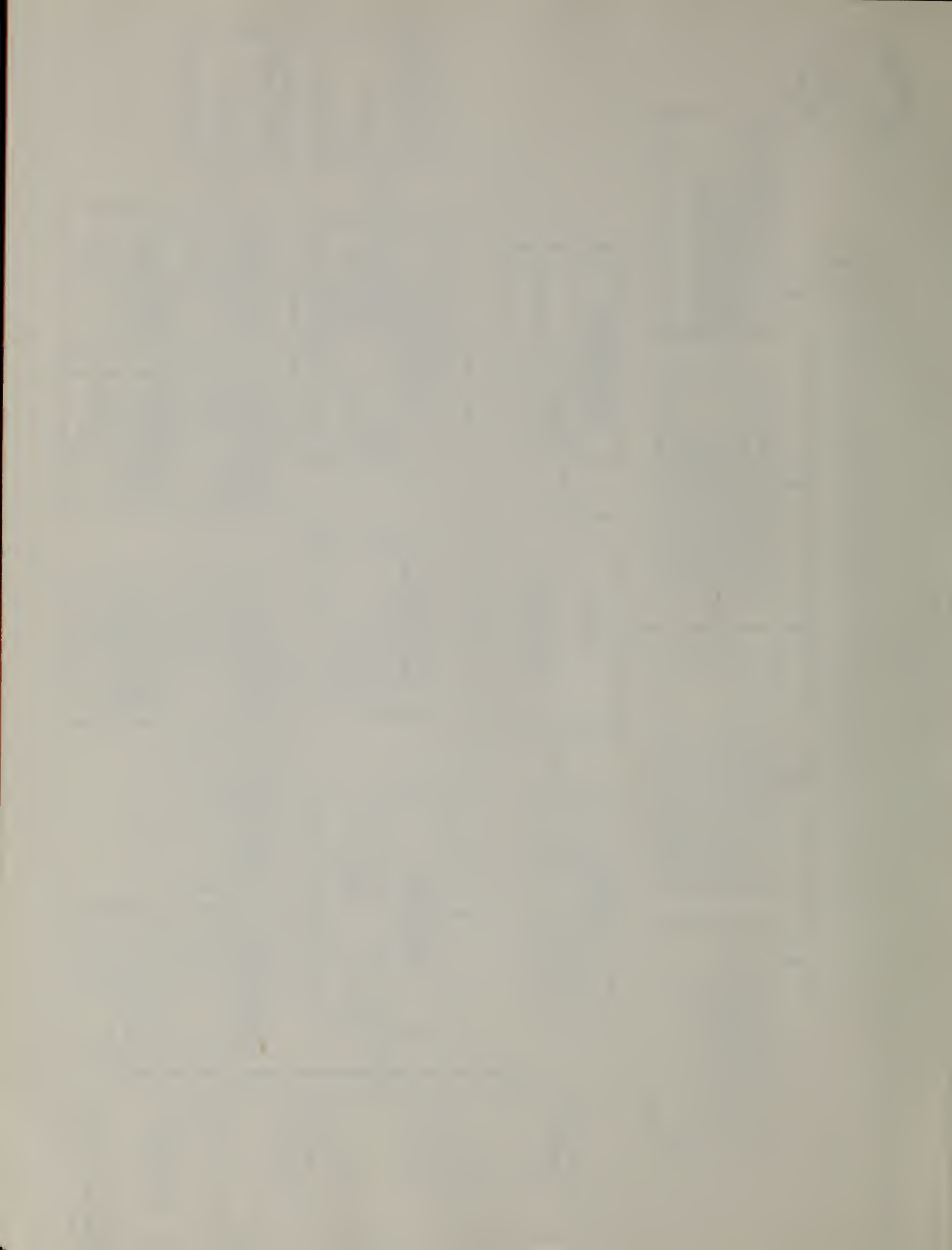


MONTACHUSETT REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

150 MAIN STREET
FITCHBURG, MASSACHUSETTS 01420
TEL. NO. (617) 345 - 7376







MONTACHUSETT REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
MEETING CALENDAR
1979

JANUARY				
M	T	W	T	F
	2	(3)	4	5
8	(9)	(10)	(11)	12
H	16	17	18	19
22	23	(24)	25	26
29	(30)	31		

FEBRUARY				
M	T	W	T	F
			1	2
5	6	(7)	(8)	9
12	(13)	(14)	15	16
H	20	(21)	22	23
26	(27)	28		

MARCH				
M	T	W	T	F
			1	2
5	6	(7)	(8)	9
12	(13)	(14)	15	16
19	20	(21)	22	23
26	(27)	28	29	30

APRIL				
M	T	W	T	F
2	3	(4)	5	6
9	(10)	(11)	(12)	13
H	17	(18)	19	20
23	(24)	25	26	27
30				

MAY				
M	T	W	T	F
	1	(2)	3	4
7	(8)	(9)	(10)	11
14	15	16	17	18
21	22	(23)	24	25
H	(29)	30	31	

JUNE				
M	T	W	T	F
				1
4	5	(6)	7	8
11	(12)	(13)	(14)	15
18	19	(20)	21	22
25	(26)	27	28	29

JULY				
M	T	W	T	F
2	3	H	5	6
9	(10)	(11)	(12)	13
16	17	18	19	20
23	24	(25)	26	27
30	(31)			

AUGUST				
M	T	W	T	F
		(1)	2	3
6	7	(8)	(9)	10
13	(14)	15	16	17
20	21	(22)	23	24
27	(28)	29	30	31

SEPTEMBER				
M	T	W	T	F
H	4	(5)	6	7
10	(11)	(12)	(13)	14
17	18	(19)	20	21
24	(25)	26	27	28

OCTOBER				
M	T	W	T	F
1	2	(3)	4	5
H	(9)	(10)	(11)	12
15	16	17	18	19
22	23	(24)	25	26
29	(30)	31		

NOVEMBER				
M	T	W	T	F
			1	2
5	6	(7)	(8)	9
HS	(13)	(14)	15	16
19	20	(21)	H	23
26	(27)	28	29	30

DECEMBER				
M	T	W	T	F
3	4	(5)	6	7
10	(11)	(12)	(13)	14
17	18	(19)	20	21
24	H	26	(27)	28
31				

H - Holiday

HS - Holiday - Skeleton Crew

○ - MRPC Meeting (7:30 p.m.)

○ - MJTC Meeting (7:30 p.m.)

◇ - Regional Review Committee Meeting (7:30 p.m.)

◡ - HTAC Meeting (2:00 p.m.)

□ - The Committee Meeting (7:30 p.m.)

◡ - Energy Committee Meeting (7:30 p.m.)

M O N T A C H U S E T T R E G I O N A L P L A N N I N G
C O M M I S S I O N O V E R V I E W F O R 1 9 7 8

I N T R O D U C T I O N

The Montachusett Regional Planning Commission was formed under Chapter 40B of the General Laws of Massachusetts. This State Enabling Act provides for the creation of Regional Planning Commissions by communities of the Commonwealth, and establishes their powers, duties, and financial basis.

The Montachusett Regional Planning Commission is not a federal, state, or county agency. It is a regional agency created by, and responsible to, its member communities. Its powers are strictly advisory; therefore, it is not a regional government. The seventeen member communities represented on the Commission at this time are: Ashburnham, Ashby, Ayer, Clinton, Fitchburg, Gardner, Groton, Hubbardston, Lancaster, Leominster, Lunenburg, Shirley, Sterling, Templeton, Townsend, Westminster, and Winchendon. Fort Devens also participates as a member of the Commission.

The statutory purpose of the Montachusett Regional Planning Commission is to carry out comprehensive regional planning. The enabling legislation states that the Commission:

"...shall make careful studies of the resources, possibilities, and needs of this district and, on the basis of such studies, shall prepare a comprehensive or study plan for such district ...and make such recommendations for the physical, social, and economic improvement of the district as, in their opinion, will be in the best interest of the district."

Thus, the Commission's work takes two forms: developing and maintaining a comprehensive physical plan for the region and, on the basis of this plan, providing assistance to its member communities.

A D D R E S S B Y T H E C H A I R M A N

The year 1978 was very eventful for the regional planning commission. The Commission completed its \$400,000 contract for the Montachusett-Nashua Areawide Water Quality Management Program and Draft Environmental Impact Statement. With this contract expended, the Commission's resources have diminished which has resulted in a decrease in office space and personnel. With the advent of Proposition 13, the regional planning commission will help and assist its member municipalities on the issue of reducing municipal costs. Planning is even more necessary when we are trying to cut expenditures in the most rational and coordinated way possible.

I take this opportunity to invite all our member municipalities to look very carefully at the resources the regional planning commission has. This includes not only individual professional staff but also resources in terms of data, federal regulatory information, and similar information documenting experiences of other communities. This alone would help any individual community to develop strategies for planning its growth and development. The Commission's staff and facilities are available to any bodies of local government on a cost basis for providing not only professional services but other available services such as mimeographing, drafting, and related cartographic work.

In conclusion, the regional planning commission must be actively involved with the decision makers of our municipalities. The Commission has already formulated its policy to assist, represent, and advise local communities and advocate for the interest of the local government as a whole to the various state and federal agencies and departments. If anything can be done where a local government is being stymied by state or federal agencies, the staff within its expertise will try to assist in resolving the issue and provide technical assistance if needed.

T H E C O M M I T T E E

Empowered by the Montachusett Regional Planning Commission to make policy recommendations, The Committee is a body of seven, selected by the Commission Chairman to meet once a month. Among its duties is the review of the overall operation of the Montachusett Regional Planning Commission including the management and financial decisions of the Director, job interviews and selection of prospective employees, as well as salary and adjustment figures for these employees, and overview of the Commission's Affirmative Action Program.

T H E C O M M I T T E E M E M B E R S

<i>Joyce Huff</i>	<i>Fitchburg</i>
<i>Nathaniel Dexter</i>	<i>Lancaster</i>
<i>Richard Hatch</i>	<i>Shirley</i>
<i>Walter Rolf</i>	<i>Templeton</i>
<i>Dennis Jaehne</i>	<i>Townsend</i>
<i>George Glasson</i>	<i>Westminster</i>
<i>Donald Royea</i>	<i>Winchendon</i>

T E N T H A N N I V E R S A R Y
C E L E B R A T I O N

On March 21, 1968, a letter was written to the Massachusetts Department of Commerce and Development requesting recognition of the Montachusett Regional Planning Commission as a regional planning agency. This letter was answered May 1, 1968 by T. W. Schulenberg, in which the formation of the Montachusett Regional Planning Commission was acknowledged.

The Montachusett Regional Planning Commission held a dinner at the Old Mill Restaurant on April 28, 1978 to celebrate this event. Seventy-six people joined the Commission in recognizing its 10 years of existence.

In honor of this occasion, artist Sandy Farnsworth of Shirley presented the Commission with an oil rendition of the Commission's seal. Done predominately in blues and greens, the plaque depicts Mt. Monadnock, Mt. Watatic, and Mt. Wachusett -- from whence the Montachusett Region derives its name -- and incorporates the Montachusett Regional Planning Commission's logo. The seal, designed by staff cartographer Patricia Donaghy, was adopted as the Commission's official logo in 1976.



The Commission received an official citation from the State Senate expressing their congratulations on the Commission's Tenth Anniversary. This was signed by the President of the Senate, Kevin Harrington, Clerk of the Senate, Edward O'Neill, and State Senator Robert Hall.

We would like to express our appreciation to all the Montachusett Regional Planning Commission representatives for their active participation and cooperation during 1978. We look forward to their continued cooperation in 1979.



E N E R G Y A D V I S O R Y C O M M I T T E E

In June of 1978, the Montachusett Regional Planning Commission established this subcommittee to advise the Commission on energy related matters. During the past six months, the Energy Advisory Committee has concentrated on organizational matters, identification of goals, and A-95 review of housing or other construction projects from the standpoint of energy efficiency. Of critical importance to the citizens of our region will be the formulation of an energy plan based on the resources and requirements which are unique to the Montachusett Region. This effort will be greatly enhanced by the interest, expertise, and viewpoints contributed by committee members.

ENERGY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Gerry Crowley, Associates
 Roger Guichard
 Robert Bradford
 William Murrah
 Joseph Crecca
 Cliff Regan
 Jeffrey Bean
 Nadia Beiser
 John Julian
 Robert Richard
 Walter Woodruff
 Rhonda Flack
 Dick Kettberg
 Thomas Musco
 Chris Chapman
 Earl Hanson
 Dennis Jaehne
 Larry McIntosh
 Dennis Randall
 Ildiko Von Rosenvinge
 Peter Russo
 Mr. & Mrs. Fred Wolfe
 Joyce Huff
 Richard Hatch
 Walter Rolf
 Paul Giammalvo
 Robert Sarafcom
 Paul Fate
 Brian Angus
 Gregg Cravedi
 Elaine Skorko
 Mark Reynolds
 Rebecca Southwick
 Douglas Flemming
 Cleghorn Oil, Inc.
 Marvo Oil Company
 Jeffrey Fuel & Gas, Company
 Lancaster Fuel Company
 Philbin Fuel

Leominster
 Wood-Tek of Gardner, Inc.
 Fitchburg Chamber of Commerce
 Leominster Planning Dept.
 Cleghorn Neighborhood Center, Fitchburg
 Gardner CETA Office
 Fitchburg
 Hubbardston
 Leominster Public Works Dept.
 MOC Winterization Program
 Fitchburg
 MOC
 Leominster
 Royalston
 Fort Devens
 Lunenburg
 Townsend
 Harvard
 Fitchburg
 Harvard
 Gardner
 Ashby
 Fitchburg
 Shirley
 Baldwinville
 Westminster
 Lunenburg
 Winchendon
 MOC Winterization Program
 Gardner
 Gardner
 Gardner
 Gardner
 Lunenburg High School
 Fitchburg
 Fitchburg
 Sterling
 S. Lancaster
 Clinton

2 0 8 A R E A W I D E W A T E R Q U A L I T Y M A N A G E M E N T P R O G R A M



Culminating three years of planning effort for 14 communities in the Nashua River Basin ('shby, Ayer, Bolton, Clinton, Fitchburg, Groton, Harvard, Lancaster, Leominster, Lunenburg, Shirley, Sterling, Townsend, Westminster), the Montachusett Regional Planning Commission has completed its final 208 Areawide Water Quality Management Plan.

In June of 1975, the Montachusett Regional Planning Commission was designated by Michael Dukakis, former Governor of Massachusetts, as the planning agency to develop a 208 Areawide Water Quality Management Plan for the Nashua River Basin. Called "208" planning after a section of Public Law, 92-500, the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, the goal of the plan has been to bring the quality of the Nashua River Basin waters to a "fishable-swimmable" level by 1983. Section 208 of this legislation established special requirements which would ensure a comprehensive approach in assessing water pollution problems and provide for solutions which would rely on nonstructural as well as structural techniques to improve the quality of the waters.

Historically a heavily industrialized region, has largely contributed to the Basin's water quality problem. With the establishment of paper, textile, and furniture industries in the nineteenth century, the Nashua River has had serious water quality problems - today holding the dubious distinction of being one of the most polluted streams in Massachusetts. As a result, the Massachusetts' Nashua 208 planning project has undertaken the pollution abatement effort in this region. The project has examined not only traditional point sources of pollution typical of urban areas (discharge from a pipe), but also non-point sources of pollution found in less densely populated areas (pollution from diffuse areas such as leachate from failing septic systems, runoff from construction sites).

The Montachusett-Nashua 208 Areawide Water Quality Management Program has examined the problem of combined sewer overflows and urban runoffs in the Montachusett Region. As municipal and industrial discharges provide a high level of treatment, and as land devoted to urban uses increase the relative impact of urban runoff and combined sewer overflows increases (point source). The pollution associated with these two factors in a direct result of urban growth and development. Using a computer model of the 208 study area, estimates were made of the concentrations and amount of water running off different kinds of land (such as city streets, agricultural land, forests.) Different strategies for reducing the harmful effects of urban runoff on water quality were presented. These range from highly structural to non-structural options such as sewer flushing, street sweeping, storage, and correction of plumbing deficiencies.

As well, a study of the combined sewer overflow problem in Fitchburg has examined various sewer management strategies ranging from the separation of storm drains to street sweeping and sewer flushing in order to avoid deposition. The most feasible alternative to the problem is to upgrade the regulations and correct other plumbing deficiencies.

Interestingly enough, one of the more innovative concepts of the 208 program is the philosophy that not all water pollution problems can best be solved by traditional public sewer systems. Instead, there is the recognition that a more rational use of land could alleviate certain non-point sources of pollution.

Non-point sources of pollution originate in a diffuse area. The number of non-point sources is so vast in any region that only unlimited planning resources would permit site specific planning for the control of this type of pollution. Therefore, the approach taken by the Montachusett-Nashua 208 Water Quality Management Program has been two-fold: 1) A detailed analysis has been made on a community-by-community basis of the soils capability for sustaining on-lot disposal systems, and a community's ability to sustain development without impairing surface or groundwater quality. 2) Site specific case studies of non-point sources of pollution have been prepared. The accounts of these case studies are meant to acquaint members of other communities with the experience of trying to solve a particular type of non-point source problem, and so make these experiences serve as demonstration projects for the entire 208 planning area. Examples of these case studies include lake management studies, disposal of wastewater treatment plant sludge, agricultural runoff, erosion and sedimentation from a highway construction site, and the effects of shoreline greenways on water quality. Recommendations applicable to individual cities and towns include: control of agricultural runoff, control of erosion and sedimentation from highway construction, control of erosion and sedimentation from buildings, provision for disposal of wastewater treatment plant sludge, development of management programs for town lakes, establishment of shoreline greenways, relocation and improvement of municipal landfill, adoption of septic system and septicage disposal management and after zoning to eliminate land use water quality conflicts.

Sewage needs studies were also completed in five towns in the Region (Ashby, Groton, Shirley, Sterling, and Townsend). Each study examined the need for a sewerage system, pollution problems in the communities, the location of the problems, and some preliminary cost comparisons. Sewerage need is a measure of the performance of the existing wastewater disposal method, which is on site treatment for the five towns mentioned. In those areas where septic systems do not perform well, wastewater management alternatives have been developed using two basic approaches: rehabilitation of the on site system and the municipal sewer approach. This can be either a full scale municipal system serving a major portion of the community or a neighborhood system serving only a small portion of the town.

Written as an Environmental Impact Statement, the 208 plan has gone through an extensive public review period. The Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the 208 Areawide Water Quality Plan was formally released by the Environmental Protection Agency on June 30, 1978. Over 300 copies were also sent to local residents and municipal officials for their review and comment. As well, five subregional workshops were held by the Montachusett Regional Planning Commission in order to explain the plan to local communities. Comments from communities, local industries, and state and federal agencies pertaining to the Draft Environmental Impact Statement were then received and published as part of the final Environmental Impact Statement.

LAKE MANAGEMENT CONTRACT WITH CLINTON, MASSACHUSETTS



Executed in January of 1977, as a result of the 208 Areawide Water Quality Management Program, the Montachusett Regional Planning Commission and the Clinton Board of Selectmen entered into a contract calling for a lake management study of Mossey, Coachlace, and South Meadow Ponds. Located adjacent to the downtown area, the ponds have served as a recreational resource for Clinton residents. Yet, over the past few years, the ponds have experienced nutrification problems which have resulted in excessive weed and algae growth. As a result, the eutrophication has interfered with the recreational uses and visual attractiveness of the waterbodies.

The lake management program took two directions. First, maps of the watershed areas of the pond were prepared in order to determine land uses. Land use in a watershed may contribute pollutant sources and may be a major source of pond degradation. As well, mapping can indicate feeder brooks and streams to the ponds which may be a source of incoming pollutants. Secondly, an extensive sampling program was conducted in order to determine the quality of water in the ponds. Conducted during the spring and fall of 1978, inlets, outlets, and deep-holes were sampled for the three ponds. As well, meetings were held with the Board of Selectmen, Conservation Commission, Board of Health, and interested citizens in order to obtain more information on areas containing either large quantities of algae and plant growth or those areas suspected to have been affected by non-point sources of pollution from the watershed.

The water quality samples were then analyzed for numerous biological, chemical, and metal parameters, including phosphorous, nitrogen, coliforms, conductivity, iron, chromium, and cadmium. The Montachusett Regional Planning Commission will then present recommendations to the selectmen on actions the Town may take in order to improve the quality of water in the ponds.

WATER QUALITY PLANNING FOR "NON-DESIGNATED AREAS"

Hoping to both pinpoint problem areas in the Miller's River Basin and establish a Water Quality Management Plan, the Department of Environmental Quality Engineering granted a contract for the communities of Ashburnham, Gardner, Hubbardston, Templeton, and Winchendon in 1978. These "non-designated areas," the areas not included in the original round of 208 Water Quality Planning, received the contract as a result of a judicial decision at the Federal level mandating all states to study those communities not funded under the original 208 grant designation.

Information gathered under the grant included an inventory of areas that have experienced septic tank failures and septage sludge and sanitary landfill practices. As well, Water Quality - Land Use Planning, to prevent ground and surface water pollutants, was conducted for the five communities. The purpose of this water quality - land use planning is to serve as a guideline for the communities in revising ordinances in order that future non-sewered development will be located on lots where the soil and lot size is conducive to the long term operation of septic system leach fields. This was done with assistance from municipal planning boards, as areas of likely growth were mapped and analyzed for their ability to absorb on lot disposal and runoff. As well, current zoning was also evaluated and general recommendations were made to re-zone areas not adequately protected.

1978NON-DESIGNATED ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Susanne Kilner	Dept. of Environmental Quality Engineering
Richard Joly	Templeton Planning Department
John Perreault	Templeton
Bruce Dora	Templeton
Albert Clark	Hubbardston
Frederick K. Schauffler	New England Interstate Water Pollution Control Commission
Scott Hodgkins	Hubbardston Town Planner
Arthur Young	City Engineer, Gardner
Bob Grey	Miller's River Watershed Assoc.
Granville Rideout	Ashburnham
Theodore Curtis	Hubbardston
Gayland Folley	Holden Soil Conservation Service
Ernestine Jalonon	Hubbardston
Vincent Plocha	Ashburnham
David Curran	Gardner
Michael Smith	Gardner
Henry W. Goyette	Winchendon

T H E 7 0 1 P R O G R A M

The first half of 1978 marked the Montachusett Regional Planning Commission's completion of its Housing and Land Use Elements in accordance with the Regulations of the HUD 701 Program. Summary Statements describing the Elements and how they satisfy HUD requirements were submitted to HUD in April, 1978 and were approved in June.

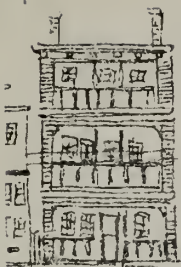
Approval of the elements means that the Commission will remain eligible to receive the 701 Grant and thus will be able to continue the important work supported by this source of funding. More importantly, however, by virtue of having completed the Housing and Land Use Elements the Commission has brought its planning in these fields to a rather advanced stage of development. The development of each element involved extensive data collection; analysis of problems, formulation of goals, objectives and policies; and the identification and initiation of implementation activities. Thus, the Elements provide a sound basis on which the Commission can contribute to the betterment of the situation in the Region, and a basis for future planning and implementation activities.

Since mid year, the Montachusett Regional Planning Commission has expanded its 701 activities to include economic development and urban revitalization. Working with the Clinton Planning Board, the Montachusett Regional Planning Commission has prepared a Downtown Revitalization Study identifying and analyzing the problems and assets of Clinton's downtown business area, as well as the direction for improving the situation. Also, the Montachusett Regional Planning Commission has begun research eventually leading to the development of a comprehensive Regional Economic Development Plan.

The Montachusett Regional Planning Commission has been providing assistance to Sterling and Westminster in developing plans and tools with which to guide future growth and development. Further direct assistance in environmentally sensitive land use planning to member communities is anticipated for 1979.

The Montachusett Regional Planning Commission has also provided the Housing Technical Advisory Committee with staff support. Established in early, 1971, the Housing Technical Advisory Committee fulfills a variety of functions. Among these, the Housing Technical Advisory Committee serves to promote the achievement of safe, sanitary, and adequate housing for every household in the Region. As well, it serves as a clearinghouse for information, technical assistance, and the like, such as disseminating information on programs currently available to cities, towns, and individuals as requested, participating in A-95 reviews, and clarifying and amplifying the housing needs in the area. During the past year, the Housing Technical Advisory Committee's most important activity has been review of the Housing Assistance Plans under the A-95 Review Process.

Membership to the Housing Technical Advisory Committee consists of delegates and alternates chosen annually from each of the following groups: local housing authorities, community action committees, non-profit housing groups, regional, state, and federal housing agencies, community interest groups, housing related private associations, housing related municipal agencies (housing code enforcement agencies, planning boards, health boards, planning departments), and appointees of boards of selectmen and mayors with confirmation of the city councils.



1978

HOUSING TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Michael Gallant
Louis J. Beasley
Harriett Maxant
Edward O'Brien
Michael Jaillet
John Barrett
Peter Brennan
Michael Ciota
Andrienne Clark
John E. Coulter, Jr.
Adrian Ford
Kenneth Fortin
Ben Hansberry

Joe Carol Hayes
Joseph Hines
Joyce Huff
Nicholas Miserendino
Melody Owen
John C. Pickney
Dr. Wm. J. Villawme
Brenda Royer
Laurie Scott
Albert Clark
Robert Carlson
William Coles
Luis Colon
Anita Gilbo
Francis Moulton
William Murrah
Anne Parnes
Randall Parr
Gordon Robinson
Ella Denault
Barbara Schnuer
George Fitch
William S. Toder
Peter Tosi
Richard Joly
Walter Rolf
Kathleen Jamieson
Anna May
Eino Haynes
Marion Gage
George Glasson
George Wallin
L. Earnest Beresh
Peter Gagliardi
Gary Brown

Ashburnham Planning Board
Ayer Housing Authority
Ayer Planning Board
Clinton Planning Board
Clinton Planning Board
Central Mass. Legal Services
Fitchburg Planning Department
Central Mass. Legal Services
Fitchburg Housing Authority -
Fitchburg Board of Health
III Pyramids
Fitchburg Board of Health
Northern Worcester County Board
of Realtors
III Pyramids
III Pyramids
Fitchburg Planning Board
Fitchburg Housing Authority
III Pyramids
III Pyramids
Emanuel Lutheran Church
Gardner Community Action Committee
Gardner Community Action Committee
Hubbardston Board of Selectmen
Leominster Board of Health
Leominster Board of Health
Spanish American Center
Spanish American Center
Leominster Planning Board
Leominster Planning Director
Leominster League of Women Voters
Leominster Planning Board
Leominster Housing Authority
Lunenburg
F&L Planned Housing
Sterling Board of Health
Sterling Board of Health
Sterling Planning Board
Templeton Planning Board
MRPC
Townsend Elderly Housing Corporation
Townsend Elderly Housing Corporation
Westminster Housing Authority
Westminster Planning Board
MRPC
Westminster Housing Authority
Winchendon, Rural Housing Improvement
Winchendon, Rural Housing Improvement
Department of Community Affairs

I N V E N T O R Y O F L A N D U S E , H O U S I N G A N D R E C R E A T I O N A L F A C I L I T I E S

Staffed through the Comprehensive Employment Training Act (CETA) Title VI Program, the Montachusett Regional Planning Commission completed a one-year survey of land use, housing, and recreational facilities. Marking the first time that such a comprehensive field survey had been undertaken by the Montachusett Regional Planning Commission, the data was tabulated, analyzed, and mapped creating a data bank of first-hand current information for use by municipal, state, and federal agencies in making informed planning decisions for the Region.

I N V E N T O R Y O F E X I S T I N G H O U S I N G

Conducted from October, 1977 to March, 1978, this field survey included a count of the region's residential structures and dwelling units, their classification by type and their classification by physical condition. As well, three sets of maps have been prepared to go along with the survey. Included are: a set depicting the generalized data collected during the actual survey, a set depicting housing conditions, and a set depicting housing distribution by type. Added to the Montachusett Regional Planning Commission's data resources, the availability of this information will help the Montachusett Regional Planning Commission and local governing and policy bodies in the process of housing planning, and in other planning areas that require knowledge of housing, location, and type.

I N V E N T O R Y O F O U T D O O R R E C R E A T I O N A L F A C I L I T I E S

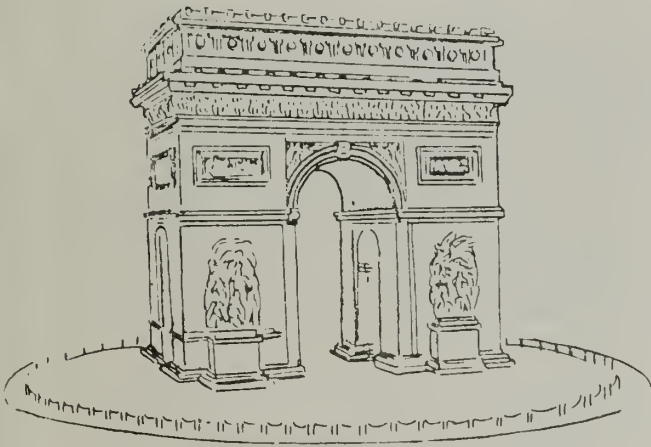
Conducted from October, 1977 to December, 1978, this inventory contains a listing of facilities and tables indicating the accessibility of various outdoor recreational activities and facilities in the 17 member cities and towns of the Region. Also available to local governing and policy boards are maps showing the location of the facilities. Although principally a field survey, additional information was collected through the communities' recreation commissions, conservation commissions, school athletic directors, and other sources.

I N V E N T O R Y O F E X I S T I N G L A N D U S E

In order to accurately assess the current land use activities of the Region, an in-depth field survey was conducted from September, 1977 through November, 1978. Along with mapping products, the results of this inventory (recording locations and amounts of land used for agricultural, residential, commercial, industrial, and public/institutional purposes) will prove useful for local communities, providing a vital data base for planning at the municipal and regional levels.

H I S T O R I C P R E S E R V A T I O N

Funded by the Montachusett Regional Planning Commission and the Massachusetts Historic Commission, a Regional Historic Preservation Pilot Project, identifying the Montachusett Region's historic architecture was completed in December, 1978. A survey of the Region's town centers allowed an examination of groups of structures and focused on specific buildings of importance that exemplified the historical trends and settlement periods of these centers as a whole. This method of presenting an overview of the area's development and current architectural make-up provides a needed conceptual framework for all of the historic resources of a municipality and is an important contribution to preservation and planning efforts. Hopefully, a range of agencies, groups, and individuals will find this project useful. For local historical commissions, it can provide an analytical overview of survey work accomplished, facilitate the surveying of areas that have yet to be recorded, and can be useful as a skeleton outline for potential National Register and local historical districts. It offers specific guidelines for the identification of architectural styles and building types encountered during recording work. For the Montachusett Regional Planning Commission, it will serve as a data base that presents the town's resources in a collective, regional context, and suggests ways the Regional Planning Commission can continue to stimulate preservation activities. For the Massachusetts Historic Commission, it can contribute important synoptic information on towns surveyed and those that have yet to produce survey work. Overall, the project encourages the sharing of resources on an inter-agency basis and this facilitates the dialogue between different levels of preservation activity.



A - 9 5 R E G I O N A L C L E A R I N G H O U S E

Coordinating the many federal, state, and local projects taking place in the Region is a key responsibility of the Commission. The Montachusett Regional Planning Commission carries out its coordinating role for the 17 member communities primarily through the A-95 Clearinghouse Review process, which consists of reviewing project proposals in the area that will involve federal, state, and local funds.

Circular A-95 was established by the Office of Management and Budget to achieve continuity and coordination between governmental funding sources, receivers of the governmental funding and those affected by the funded projects. It is not the intent of the procedure to obstruct any worthy project, but rather provide a means whereby all local, county, and regional resources can be effectively utilized in securing final completion of needed projects.

The Montachusett Regional Planning Commission's Regional Review Committee carries out this responsibility by holding a monthly public meeting to review proposed projects which will effect a change on the quality of life in the area. This public meeting process allows all residents, communities, and agencies of the region to make their viewpoint known and, therefore, be taken under advisement before the federal agency grants funding to the proposed project. As well, this system allows residents, communities, and agencies to protect their own interests as well as provides an opportunity to support projects which are needed and beneficial to the region's welfare.

Regional Review Committee meeting agendas are posted in all city/town clerks' offices and distributed to newspapers one week prior to the meeting. Agencies which could be impacted by the proposed projects are also notified of the Review. Those agencies which have established a formal Memorandum of Understanding with the Montachusett Regional Planning Commission include the Central Massachusetts Health Systems Agency, Fitchburg Committee to Remove Architectural Barriers, Fitchburg Human Rights Commission, Department of Community Affairs, Department of Environmental Quality Engineering, Executive Office of Transportation and Construction, Environmental Protection Agency, Metropolitan Area Planning Council, Massachusetts Department of Public Works, Northern Middlesex Area Commission, and the Soil Conservation Service.

Projects which have been reviewed in 1978 are listed on the following pages. The projects are listed by the month in which they were reviewed and include the name of the applicant, funding agency, amount of funds requested, and the Montachusett Regional Planning Commission's action. CONFORMITY indicates that the project did not conflict with regional goals. CONFORMITY WITH COMMENT indicates the proposal was in conformity with most goals but could be modified to improve its impact upon the region.

REGIONAL REVIEW COMMITTEE MEMBERS

<i>Harriett Maxant</i> <i>Joyce Huff</i> <i>Richard Hatch</i> <i>Walter Rolf</i> <i>Dennis Jaehne</i> <i>George Glasson</i> <i>Donald Royea</i>	<i>Ayer</i> <i>Fitchburg</i> <i>Shirley</i> <i>Templeton</i> <i>Townsend</i> <i>Westminster</i> <i>Winchendon</i>
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A - 9 5 R E V I E W S - 1 9 7 8

JANUARY, 1978

Montachusett Regional Planning Commission
Economic Development Technical Assistance Grant
EDA \$37,500
NRPC 12,500
\$50,000
Conformity

FEBRUARY, 1978

Montachusett Regional Planning Commission
Urban Design for a River Corridor
National Endowment for the Arts
NRPC, NRMA, Tufts University, Leominster & Fitchburg
\$32,914
32,914
\$65,828
Conformity

Montachusett Regional Planning Commission
Environmental Education Program
U. S. Office of Education \$40,000
10,000
\$50,000
Conformity

MARCH, 1978

City of Fitchburg
Community Development Block Grant
HUD \$1,337,000
Conformity - Attach Comments of Ill Pyramids

City of Leominster
Community Development Block Grant
U. S. Dept. of HUD \$495,000

Gardner Airport Commission
Rehabilitation of Existing Runway Lighting System
Federal Aviation Administration \$30,000
Conformity

APRIL, 1978

Central Mass. Health Systems Agency
Continuation Application as a Conditionally Designated
Health Systems Agency
U. S. Dept. of HEW \$331,241
Conformity

Gardner-Athol Mental Health Center
Continuation Staffing Grant \$350,921
U. S. HEW
Commonwealth of Massachusetts 150,395
\$501,316
Conformity

Montachusett Opportunity Council, Inc.
Massachusetts Community Action Program (CAP) Association Support
Community Services Administration \$20,000
Conformity

Montachusett Opportunity Council, Inc.
New England Community Action Program
Directors Association Support
Community Services Administration \$64,296
Conformity

Town of Westminster
Step I Facilities Plan for Wastewater
Collection and Treatment Facilities
Environmental Protection Agency \$59,700
Commonwealth of Massachusetts 19,900
\$79,600
Conformity with comment

MAY, 1978

Rural Housing Improvement, Inc.
Rural Community Assistance Project
Community Services Administration \$552,019
Conformity

Central Mass. Regional Planning Commission
Comprehensive Planning Assistance Program
HUD \$60,000
Local 30,000
\$90,000
Conformity

A - 9 5 R E V I E W S - 1 9 7 8

Town of Clinton
Community Development Block Grant - Small
Cities Preapplication
HUD \$450,000
Conformity

City of Gardner
Community Development Block Grant - Small
Cities Preapplication
HUD \$675,378
Conformity

Town of Templeton
Community Development Block Grant - Small
Cities Preapplication
HUD \$120,000
Conformity

Town of Winchendon
Community Development Block Grant - Small
Cities Preapplication
HUD \$750,000
Conformity

Montachusett Regional Planning Commission
Rural Comprehensive Planning
Farmers Home Administration \$33,750
MRPC 11,250
\$45,000
Conformity

JUNE, 1978

L&Z Kaiman Company
Farmers Home Administration Loan Guarantee \$450,000
Conformity

Wood-Tek of Gardner, Inc.
Loan Guarantee
Farmers Home Administration \$425,000
Conformity

Montachusett Opportunity Council, Inc.
Storm Window Project
Community Services Administration \$175,000
Conformity

JULY, 1978

Goodrich Street Housing (Winchendon)
515 Construction Loan Preapplication
Farmers Home Administration \$895,000
Conformity

Town of Ayer
Step III Wastewater Collection and Treatment Facility
Environmental Protection Agency \$11,600,093
State 2,320,019
Local 1,758,319
\$15,678,431
Conformity

Montachusett Opportunity Council, Inc.
Local Initiative
Community Services Administration \$175,000
Non-federal 116,666
\$291,666
Conformity

Montachusett Opportunity Council, Inc.
Community Canning Center
Community Services Administration \$43,308
Conformity

Montachusett Opportunity Council, Inc.
Family Planning and Health Center (supplemental request)
U. S. HEW \$20,000
Conformity

Montachusett Opportunity Council, Inc.
Hispanic Citizen Mobilization Project
Community Services Administration \$25,000
Conformity

Mental Health Association of North Central Massachusetts, Inc.
Prevention and Treatment of Child Abuse
U. S. HEW - Office of Child Development \$120,000
Conformity

North Central Mass. Mental Health Association
Application for Determination of Need
n/a
Conformity

Worcester County Commissioners
Health Care Services Implementation Project \$70,326.80
Law Enforcement Assistance Administration 17,581.60
Local \$87,908.40
Conformity

AUGUST, 1978

Montachusett Opportunity Council, Inc.
Leominster Elderly Housing
HUD \$4,050,000
Conformity

City of Fitchburg/Council on Aging
Multipurpose Senior Center
U. S. HEW \$ 53,838
Community Development Block Grant Funds 300,000
\$353,838
Conformity

Montachusett Opportunity Council, Inc.
Family Planning and Health Center
U. S. HEW \$152,095
Conformity

Rural Housing Improvement, Inc.
Local Initiative
Community Services Administration, \$326,666
Conformity

Mass. Division of Water Pollution Control
Mass. Lake Program
EPA \$105,808
State 45,346
\$151,154
Conformity

Montachusett Opportunity Council, Inc.
Youth and Family Services Center
Law Enforcement Assistance Administration \$56,673
Conformity

Montachusett Regional Planning Commission
Transportation Improvement Program Fiscal Year 1979
n/a
Conformity

Commonwealth of Massachusetts - Bureau of Solid Waste Disposal
Solid and Hazardous Waste Management Program
Environmental Protection Agency \$615,145
State 198,182
\$813,327
Comment - not consistent with regional goals, policies, and objectives

SEPTEMBER, 1978

Fitchburg Housing Authority
College Area Neighborhood Improvement Program
HUD \$900,000
Conformity

Community Planning and Development Associates
Gardner Family/Elderly Rental Housing Loan
Farmers Home Administration \$3,000,000
Not in conformity

City of Fitchburg/Law Enforcement Committee
Short-Term Residential Treatment Center for Adolescents
Law Enforcement Assistance Administration \$134,510
Conformity

Gardner Community Action Committee
Purchase Van for Elderly, Ill, and Handicapped
UMTA \$16,800
Conformity

Mass. Office of State Planning
Incentive Funding for State and Regional Strategies
HUD \$250,000
State 125,000
\$375,000
Conformity with comment

Town of Clinton
Community Development Block Grant Application
HUD \$450,000
Conformity

Montachusett Regional Planning Commission
Technical Studies Grant Application
UMTA \$50,700
Local 12,675
\$63,675
Conformity

Montachusett Opportunity Council, Inc.
New England CAP Directors Association Energy Project
Community Services Administration \$80,000
Conformity

OCTOBER, 1978

City of Fitchburg/Office of the Mayor
Urban Development Action Grant Pre-application
HUD \$1,500,000
City 160,000
Other 5,000,000
\$6,760,00
Comment

Region II Area Agency on Aging, Inc.
Planning and Coordinating Services for Elderly - Title III
U. S. HEW \$467,281
Dept. of Elder Affairs 24,000
Local 131,760
\$623,041
Conformity

NOVEMBER, 1978

City of Leominster
Construction of Wastewater Treatment and Collection Facilities
Environmental Protection Agency \$18,450,000
State 3,690,000
Local 2,460,000
\$24,600,000
Conformity - including comments

Mental Health Association of North Central Massachusetts
Operating Grant \$ 850,000
U. S. HEW \$ 1,485,173
Commonwealth of Mass. 499,827
Applicant 150,000
Local \$2,985,000
Conformity (subject to Central Mass. Health Systems Agency Approval)

DECEMBER, 1978

Townsend Elderly Housing Corporation
Farmers Home Administration \$1,530,977
Applicant 10,000
\$1,540,977
Conformity

Montachusett Opportunity Council, Inc.
Community Services Administration \$35,000
Conformity

T R A N S P O R T A T I O N (3-C)REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY

On August 8, 1978, the cities of Fitchburg, Leominster and Gardner voted to form a Regional Transit Authority in order to provide public transit services and a forum to oversee these services. Although designated by the state under Chapter 161B of the Massachusetts General Laws as eligible for membership to the Authority, the towns of Lunenburg and Westminster voted against joining the Regional Transit Authority.

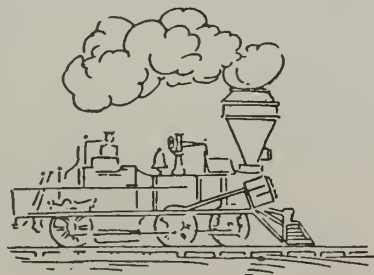
Since the formation of the Authority, Fitchburg and Leominster have expressed a concern that the first year transit implementation plan recommended in the 1977 Transit Development Plan by Alan M. Voorhees and Associates contains more services than they are willing to fund.

Consequently, the Montachusett Regional Planning Commission, working with its consultant, Urban Transportation Systems Associates, developed an immediate action plan on a scale somewhat less than originally recommended. Also, Gardner, which was not included as a part of the Transit Development Program, has been included in the plan. The plan describes immediate action service alternatives prepared for the Fitchburg-Leominster and Gardner areas. The Plan addresses in detail the number of vehicles required and the amount of weekday and weekend service to be provided in terms of bus miles and bus hours of service. As well, progress has been made towards establishing a marketing program. As a part of the study, a promotional program was designed for the Fitchburg-Leominster system. The program includes development of a route map and schedule, newspaper advertisements, logo, bus color scheme, and other promotional materials.

During the course of the Regional Transit Authority's first formal meeting, held on December 11, 1978, the mayors unanimously voted to support the efforts of Gardner in obtaining federal funding for the operation of regular bus service in that city as well as requesting continued planning assistance from the Montachusett Regional Planning Commission to the Regional Transit Authority.

3-C Regional Planning Study

Initiated in 1962, and reorganized and expanded by the Bureau of Transportation, Planning and Development with the cooperation of the 13 state regional planning agencies in 1971, the intention of 3-C planning is to bolster the cooperative, comprehensive, and continuing character of transportation planning and to involve the public to the fullest extent possible in the development of a modestly balanced transportation system for the entire state. State regional planning agencies were included because of their concern with land use, environmental, and socio-economic factors. As well, the regional planning agency has better access to its region than either the state Department of Public Works or consultants and is better able to understand changing conditions and concerns as well as ability to provide information needed to generate and sustain public interest and involvement.



MODELLING

This past year, the Montachusett Regional Planning Commission completed various work tasks related to the development of the 3-C highway transportation model. Among these was the completion of the inventory and disaggregation of the socio-economic data (population, employment, vehicle ownership) to the regional traffic zones for the years 1975, 1985, 1995 and 2005. Trip generation equations were also derived which established the relationship between vehicle trips and the inventoried socio-economic data. The combination of the trip generation equations and inventoried data will establish the number of vehicle trips entering and leaving the regional traffic zones. Also completed is the highway and street network which will distribute the trips (exchange of trips between the regional traffic zone) and later assign the trips (place the trips on the roads they will use to travel between regional traffic zones). The network coding consists of descriptive data, such as land use, length, width, posted speed, road classification, geographic location and other Department of Public Works' data.

Once calibrated (1975 model vehicle trip assignments compared to actual 1975 vehicle counts), the model will be used to project vehicle travel patterns, associated auto emissions and driver costs for the years 1985 and 2005. Overall, the traffic model will be a tool for assessing the impacts of future land use development and roadway construction changes on vehicle travel in the Montachusett Region.

TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

The Transportation Improvement Program has been used as an aid to the Region in determining priorities of transportation needs. Each community in the Region submitted transportation projects which they felt were important to their community. A citizen's advisory task force, appointed by the Montachusett Joint Transportation Committee, deliberated on these projects and further produced a list of priority projects. These projects were grouped into appropriate funding categories, consistent with federal and state regulations.

The priority list (Transportation Improvement Program) of transportation projects provides a guideline to the state and federal governments for transportation projects in our region. The 1978 Transportation Improvement Program helped to initiate the Route 2 Improvement now under design.

The top 20 priorities in the Transportation Improvement Program for 1978 are:

- 1A - I-190
- 1 - Route 2 - Fitchburg, Leominster, Westminster
- 2 - Route 140 Gardner
- 3 - Route 2/13 Interchange - Leominster
- 4 - Route 101 - Templeton
- 5 - Fitchburg Connector - Fitchburg
- 6 - Clinton Connector - Clinton
- 7 - Routes 110/111 - Harvard
- 8 - Route 31 - Ashby
- 9 - Matthews Street - Gardner

- 10 - Laurel/Kimball Street - Fitchburg
- 11 - Groton/Shirley Road - Ayer
- 12 - Route 68 - Hubbardston
- 13 - Barre Road - Templeton
- 14 - Betty Spring Road - Gardner
- 15 - Fisher Road - Fitchburg
- 16 - Ashburnham Hill Road/Scott Road/Rindge Road - Fitchburg
- 17 - Industrial Road/Crawford Street Connector - Leominster/Fitchburg
- 18 - Harvard Street - Leominster
- 19 - Route 2A - Lunenburg
- 20 - Route 119 - Ashby/Ashburnham

FITCHBURG/LEOMINSTER EARLY OUTPUT ELEMENT

Completed in December, 1978, the Fitchburg/Leominster Early Output Element of the Regional Transportation Plan contains each of the elements of a corridor study plan including socio-economic, environmental and cost considerations for improvement of access between Interstate 190 and the central business district of Fitchburg. Twenty-one alternatives were reviewed in the plan, each one being subject to comprehensive criteria in order to establish an acceptability margin to be approved by local officials and interested citizens. According to the criteria, six alternatives, felt to be the best short to medium range options available, were selected for a detailed review and implementation recommendations. As well, recommendations were made regarding long range development solutions, which were considered as options should the short to medium range alternatives prove insufficient.

The final review of the study will take place in January, 1979 during a Sounding Board Meeting with local officials.

1978

FITCHBURG-LEOMINSTER SOUNDING BOARD COMMITTEE

James O'Halloran	Deputy Director, BTP&D, Boston
Paul Patneau	BTP&D, Boston
David Gilmartin	Mayor, City of Fitchburg
John Naylor	Councilor, City of Fitchburg
Ronald Ingemie	Councilor, City of Fitchburg
Bernard Chartrand	Council President, City of Fitchburg
William Murray	President, Fitchburg Chamber of Commerce
Thomas Cunningham	Planning Coordinator, City of Fitchburg
Ernest Girouard	Superintendent, Fitchburg DPW
Ellen DiGeronimo	Mass. DPW Commissioner
George J. Bourque	State Representative, Fitchburg
Joyce Huff	MRPC Member, Fitchburg
William Tuikka	MRPC Alternate, Fitchburg
Joseph Moriarty	Mayor, City of Leominster
James Malatos	Councilor, City of Leominster
Dr. E. A. Cataldo	Council President, City of Leominster
Samuel Bistany	President, Leominster Chamber of Commerce
William Murrah	Planning Director, City of Leominster
John Julian	Director, Leominster DPW
Malcolm Fortune	City Engineer, Leominster

Angelo Picucci
 Peter Matson
 Anthony Angelini
 Richard Ely
 George Munyan
 Robert Ebersole
 Elizabeth Bowron
 John Fitzgerald

State Representative, Leominster
 MRPC Member, Leominster
 MRPC Alternate, Leominster
 Board of Selectmen, Lunenburg
 Highway Superintendent, Lunenburg
 MRPC Member, Lunenburg
 MRPC Alternate, Lunenburg
 Mass. DPW, Worcester

CLINTON EARLY OUTPUT ELEMENT

The Clinton Early Output of the Regional Transportation Plan consists of nine alternatives for improved access between Clinton and the interstate network. Of these, four alternatives, selected according to various socio-economic, environmental and cost criteria, were presented to the Clinton Sounding Board members in December, 1978.

Having accepted two of the alternatives, the Sounding Board called upon the MRPC Staff to finalize the outputs in order that the report be submitted to the Massachusetts Department of Public Works for implementation at the earliest possible moment. As a result, the final report is expected to be submitted in January, 1979.

1978

CLINTON CONNECTOR SOUNDING BOARD COMMITTEE

Gerard D'Amico
 Thomas Fallon
 Walter Bickford
 Joe Duffy
 Martin McNamara, III
 Robert Bradford
 Edward O'Brien
 Alan Jewett
 Paul Welch
 Michael Jaillet
 Clark Hanebry
 Maurice Burgoyne

State Representative, Worcester
 State Representative, Clinton
 State Representative, Berlin
 Chmn. Economic Development Task Force, Clinton
 Chairman Board of Selectmen, Clinton
 Clinton Area Chamber of Commerce
 MRPC Member, Clinton
 Board of Selectmen, Clinton
 Board of Selectmen, Clinton
 Planning Department, Clinton
 Planning Board, Clinton
 DPW Director, Clinton



CARPOOLING

Nationwide, over 50 million automobiles are used for commuting each work day and 75 percent of these automobiles generally carry only one person -- the driver. As a result, this daily commuting trip is being accomplished at high costs to our society and will grow even higher as energy costs continue to rise and the availability of fuel becomes critical. A strong effort at altering this pattern has become a national priority the past few years. Indicative of this is the emphasis being placed upon programs that promote carpooling and develop a variety of para-transit services and alternative strategies to help solve our mobility problems.

As the number of programs involved in stressing carpooling across the country increases, the need for coordination and information also increases. Therefore, the Montachusett Regional Planning Commission completed its carpool information effort with the publication of the "Montachusett Region Carpool - Buspool Program, A Final Evaluation."

While there is little interest in carpooling in the Region due to the public's willingness to pay the costs of owning and operating a car, the irregularity of work hours making carpooling formation difficult and the fact that carpooling does not offer the mobility and freedom that the private automobile does, future considerations such as overall inflation and the continued rise in gas may change the populace's attitude about ridesharing. For this reason, the Montachusett Carpool Program will be available for future use to the Region.

MONTACHUSETT JOINT TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

Established in 1976, under agreements among the co-sponsoring agencies (Montachusett Regional Planning Commission, Department of Public Works, and the Executive Office of Transportation), the Montachusett Joint Transportation Committee was formed in order to provide the mechanism for an open and broadly participatory intermodal transportation planning process with maximum involvement on the part of local officials and citizenry. This leads to a program implementing the recommendations of the Montachusett Joint Transportation Committee toward an eventual transportation system which will provide for the most efficient movement of people and goods at a minimum cost. The transportation planning process is an integral part of the general planning process as undertaken by the Montachusett Regional Planning Commission.

The composition of the Montachusett Joint Transportation Committee consists of members selected annually by the Mayor or Board of Selectmen of each community and by the Planning Board, selecting either a member or representative of that Board. Exofficio members (those who are present at meetings, but are non-consensus makers) consist of representatives of the Massachusetts Department of Public Works, including a representative of the District Office, the Bureau of Project Development, and the Bureau of Transportation Planning, a representative of the Secretary of Transportation and Construction, and a representative of the Montachusett Regional Planning Commission.



1978MONTACHUSETT JOINT TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MEMBERS

<u>Member</u>	<u>Appointed by</u>
Dexter Gilchrest	Board of Selectmen, Ashby
Maurice MacDonald	Planning Board, Ayer
Ruth Proctor	Board of Selectmen, Ayer
Clark Hanebry	Planning Board, Clinton
Joyce Huff	Planning Board, Fitchburg
Dann Chamberlain	Board of Selectmen, Groton
Mary Jane Gregg	Board of Selectmen, Harvard
Harry Shepardson	Planning Board, Lancaster
James Chalke	Board of Selectmen, Lancaster
William Murrah	Planning Board, Leominster
Lt. Matteo Ciccone	Mayor, Leominster
Robert Ebersole	Planning Board, Lunenburg
Einard Warpula	Board of Selectmen, Lunenburg
Robert McBrine	Planning Board, Shirley
William Kaminski	Planning Board, Sterling
Neil Cullen	Board of Selectmen, Templeton
Dennis Jaehne	Board of Selectmen, Townsend
Peter Normandin	Planning Board, Westminster
Robert Ganley	Planning Board, Winchendon
Preston Baker	Board of Selectmen, Westminster
Dorothy Rockwell	Board of Selectmen, Sterling

ORGANIZATIONAL MEMBERS

Bedford Kaddy	Council on Aging
Wayne Walker	City Council of Gardner
Francis Noonan	Greater Fitchburg Chamber of Commerce
Herbert Neunherz	Greater Gardner Chamber of Commerce
Charlene Rocheleau	Leominster League of Women Voters
Anne Moore	Fitchburg League of Women Voters
Joyce Huff	Nashua River Watershed Association
Bernard O'Neill	Fitchburg Office of Elder Affairs
Walter Woodruff	North Worcester County Board of Realtors
Alex Spolis	Retired Men's Club of Fitchburg & Leominster, Amalgamated Transit Union #690
Elizabeth Grzymiski	Montachusett Opportunity Council
Joseph Raimon	Amalgamated Transit Union #690

EXOFFICIO MEMBERS

Walter Rolf	Montachusett Regional Planning Commission
John Fitzgerald	Mass. Department of Public Works, District #3 Bureau of Project Development
Paul Patneaude	Executive Office of Transportation and Construction Bureau of Transportation Planning and Development
Allan DeBlasio	Federal Highway Administration

P U B L I C A T I O N S 1 9 7 8

TRANSPORTATION

1. Annual Review Report, 1977-1978
2. Transportation Improvement Program for the Montachusett Region, Fiscal Year 1979
3. Transportation Prospectus/Unified Work Program, June, 1977 - June, 1979
4. Fitchburg-Leominster Early Output of the Regional Transportation Plan, Connector Study, Draft Final Report
5. Montachusett Region Carpool-Buspool Program, A Final Evaluation
6. Coordination/Consolidation of Existing Social Service Transportation, Prepared by Urban Transportation Systems Associates (UTSA)
7. Inventory of Existing Social Service Transportation, Prepared by UTSA
8. Staff Paper Number 1, Montachusett Attitude/Latent Demand Survey for the Montachusett Regional Marketing and Latent Demand Studies, Prepared by UTSA
9. Staff Paper Number 2, State-of-the-Art Marketing and Promotional Programs for the Montachusett Regional Planning Commission, Prepared by UTSA
10. Staff Paper Number 5, Results and Conclusions of Montachusett Attitude and Latent Demand Study, Prepared by UTSA
11. Montachusett Regional Transit Development Program Update Report, Prepared by UTSA

WATER QUALITY

NON-DESIGNATED REPORTS FOR FIVE COMMUNITIES (#'s 1 - 8)

1. Existing and Probable Future Land Use Report
2. Environmental Land Use Plan - Conflicts Report
3. Inventory and Assessment of Nonpoint Sources
4. Report on Nonpoint Source Assessment and Control for Septic Systems
5. Report on Non Point Source Assessment and Control for Sanitary Landfills
6. Report on Residual Waste Control - Septage Disposal
7. Report on Residual Waste Control - Sludge Management
8. Discussion Paper on Industrial Expansion
9. Montachusett-Nashua Areawide Water Quality Management Program, Draft Environmental Impact Study
10. Montachusett-Nashua Areawide Water Quality Management Program, Final Environmental Impact Study

HOUSING

1. Land Use Element Summary Statement
2. Housing Element Summary Statement
3. Housing Deterioration in the Montachusett Region

4. Revitalizing Clinton's Downtown Business District
5. HUD 701: Overall Program Design
6. HUD 701: Annual Program Report

LAND USE

1. Conservation and Open Space Plan
2. Open Space Implementation Handbook
3. Future Land Use Plan

TITLE VI CETA INVENTORY OF MONTACHUSETT REGION PROJECT

1. An Existing Land Use Survey for the Montachusett Region
2. Inventory of Outdoor Recreation Facilities in the Montachusett Region
3. Inventory of the Housing Stock in the Montachusett Region

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

1. Overall Economic Development Plan for the Fitchburg/Leominster Labor Market Area
2. Overall Economic Development Plan for the Gardner Labor Market Area

MONTACHUSETT REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

BALANCE SHEET - ALL FUNDS

JUNE 30, 1978

ASSETS

Cash, including time deposits of \$145.83		\$	1 570.49
Accounts receivable:			
Mass. DPW 3C Trans. 1977	\$	10 460.48	
Federal Grant - UMTA #0041		10 072.00	
Mass. DPW 3C Trans. 1975		9 239.71	
208 Non-designated		6 045.00	
Clinton Lake management study		4 232.76	
Historic Preservation		2 956.65	
DPW 3C Trans. 1973		272.90	
Leominster Drafting Services		201.25	
Other		602.50	44 083.25
Office furniture and equipment		16 147.20	
Less: accumulated depreciation		3 776.84	12 370.36
TOTAL ASSETS			\$ <u>58 024.10</u>

LIABILITIES AND CAPITALLiabilities

Notes payable - bank	\$	15 000.00
Accounts payable		58 907.94
Unearned Historic Preservation Grant		5 554.29
Payroll withholdings		1 846.72
Accrued payroll taxes		435.49
Accrued payroll		418.46
TOTAL LIABILITIES		82 162.90

Fund Balances

General fund	\$	9 116.02	
Equipment fund		12 370.36	21 486.38
Mass. DPW 3C Trans. 1977		(45 625.18)	(24 138.80)
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND CAPITAL			\$ <u>58 024.10</u>

LAROCQUE, VENNING & JACQUES, P.C.
 CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS
 66 Parker Street
 Gardner, MA 01440



Annual Report 1979

GOVERNMENT DOCUMENT
COLLECTION

OCT 01 1984

University of Massachusetts
Depository Copy



**Montachusett
Regional Planning Commission**

A N N U A L R E P O R T
O F T H E
M O N T A C H U S E T T R E G I O N A L
P L A N N I N G C O M M I S S I O N
F O R
1 9 7 9

Montachusett Regional
Planning Commission
150 Main Street
Fitchburg, Massachusetts 01420

The preparation of this report was financed in part through a Comprehensive Planning Grant, CPA-MA-06-1110, from the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development through Section 701 of the Housing Acts of 1954 as amended.

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MONTACHUSETT REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

MEMBERS AND ALTERNATES

<u>MUNICIPALITY</u>	<u>MEMBER</u>	<u>ALTERNATE</u>
ASHBURNHAM	MARGARET WHITNEY	PATRICK SULLIVAN
ASHBY	RICHARD WOODRUFF	SAMUEL SUTCLIFFE
AYER	ROBERT DOUGLAS	HARRIETT MAXANT
CLINTON	EDWARD O'BRIEN	KENNETH DWINELLS
FITCHBURG	JOYCE HUFF	WILLIAM TUNNEY
FORT DEVENS	ROBERT LEE (NV)	
GARDNER	GERARD VAUTOUR	ROBERT MALISKA
GROTON	ALANA KNUFF	NORMA MILLET
HUBBARDSTON	ALBERT CLARK	PETER BUMPUS
LANCASTER	NATHANIEL DEXTER	RICHARD NERONI
LEOMINSTER	GERALD COSGROVE	ANTHONY ANGELINI
LUNENBURG	DAVID DEMERS	CHARLES ARNING
SHIRLEY	RICHARD HATCH	ROBERT MANNING
STERLING	PETER ALLAIRE	DOROTHY ROCKWELL
TEMPLETON	WALTER ROLF	
TOWNSEND	CARL RUTIGLIANO	
WESTMINSTER	DENNIS BAKER	GEORGE GLASSON
WINCHENDON	DONALD ROYEA	JOSEPH LILLIE, JR.
DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS	GARY BROWN (NV)	

MONTACHUSETT REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

OFFICERS AND STAFF

OFFICERS (1979)

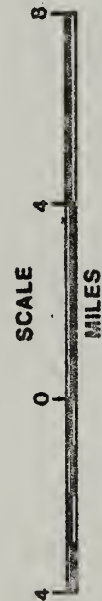
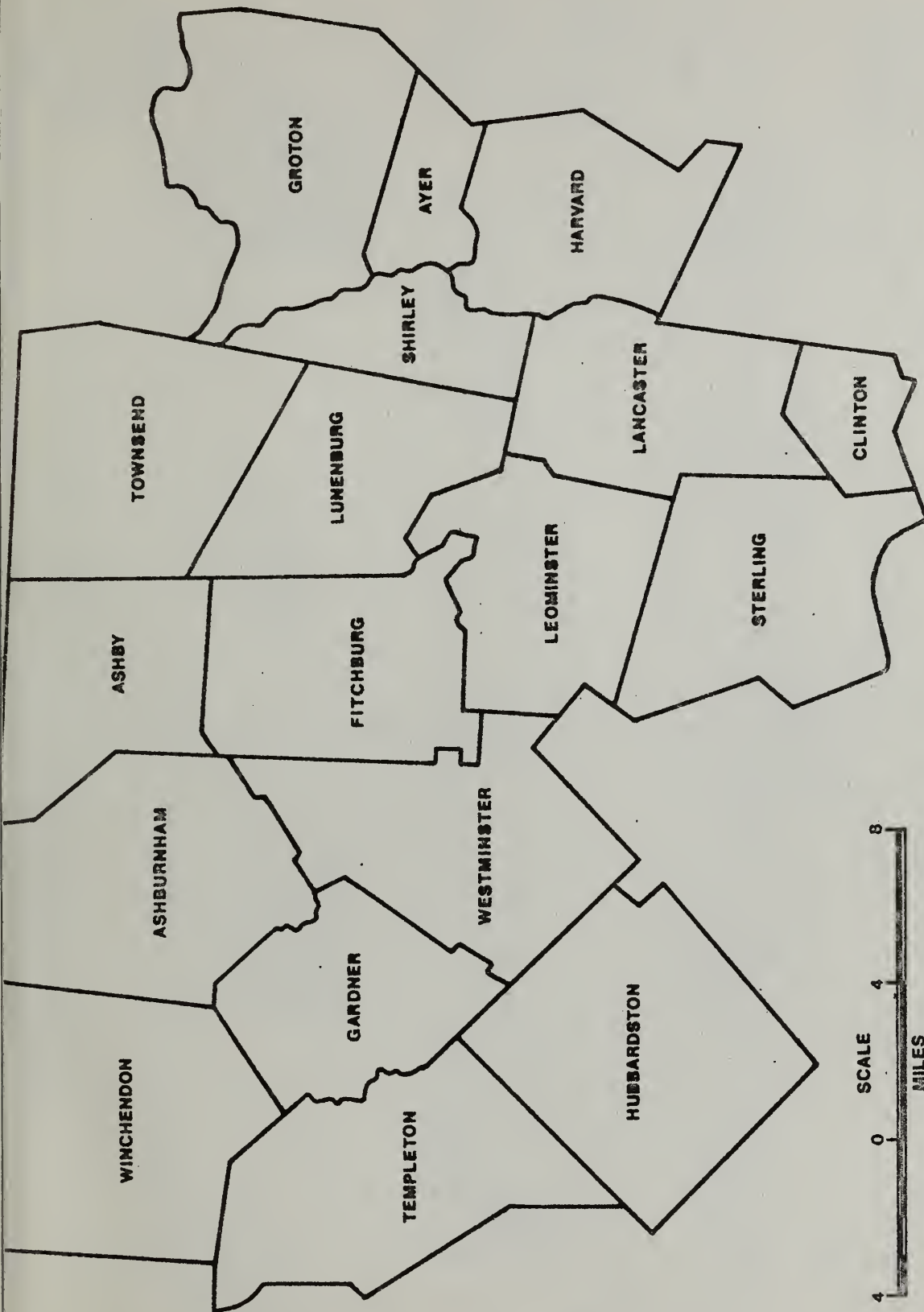
Donald Royea, Chairman
Nathaniel Dexter, Vice Chairman
Walter H. Rolf, Secretary
Joyce Huff, Treasurer
Dennis Baker, Asst. Treasurer

Winchendon
Lancaster
Templeton
Fitchburg
Westminster

STAFF

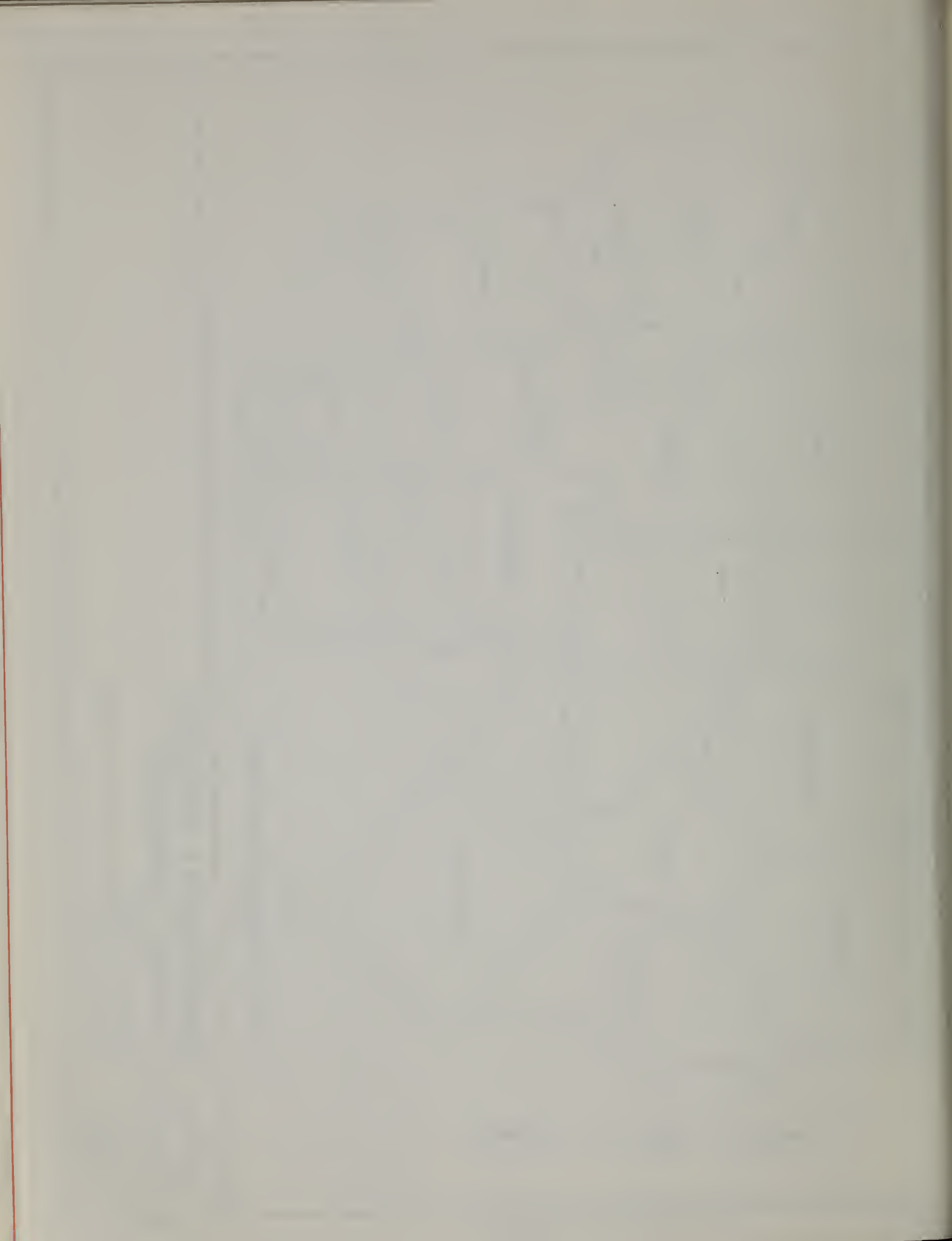
Mohammed Khan
Joseph Distefano
Richard Santner
Dana Woodbury
Michael Sylvia
Susan Haber
Helen Waldorf
Kathleen Kelley
Nathan Smith
Harald Jordan
Kenneth Lewis
Richard Lefferts
John Halstead
David Grossi
Barbara Lippel
Beverly Lynch
Steve Nikitas
William Steffens
Larry Casassa
Patrick Hickey
Mary-Jane Pederson
Judith Atherton
Alan Macpherson
John Sisoian
Bevin Popolizio
Brian Haverty
Susan Goguen
Alex Svolis
Joan MacPhee
Dennis Randall
Laila Michaud
Lorna Fredd
Patricia Donaghy
Joanna Hopkins
Ruth Twomley
Susan Parmenter
Donna Hills
Sharon Koski
Pauline Hilow
Martha Pelto
Lorraine Yeaman
Mary Parker
Susan Morse
Bertha Turula
Mark Sweatman

Planning Director
Assistant Director
Regional Planner IV
Regional Planner IV
Regional Planner III
Regional Planner III
Regional Planner III
Regional Planner II
Regional Planner II
Regional Planner II
Regional Planner II
Regional Planner II
Regional Planner I
Regional Planner I
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Regional Planner I
Planning Aide
Jr. Planning Aide
Jr. Planning Aide
Jr. Planning Aide
Jr. Planning Aide
Jr. Planning Aide
Jr. Planning Aide
Planning Aide
Planning Aide
Office Administrator
Accountant/Research Assistant
Graphics/Draftsperson
Graphics/Draftsperson
Secretary II
Secretary II
Secretary II
Secretary II
Secretary I
Secretary I
Secretary I
Secretary I
Secretary I
Clerical Assistant
Library Assistant
Intern



**MONTACHUSETT REGIONAL
PLANNING COMMISSION**
150 MAIN STREET
FITCHBURG, MASSACHUSETTS 01420
TEL. NO. (617) 345-7376

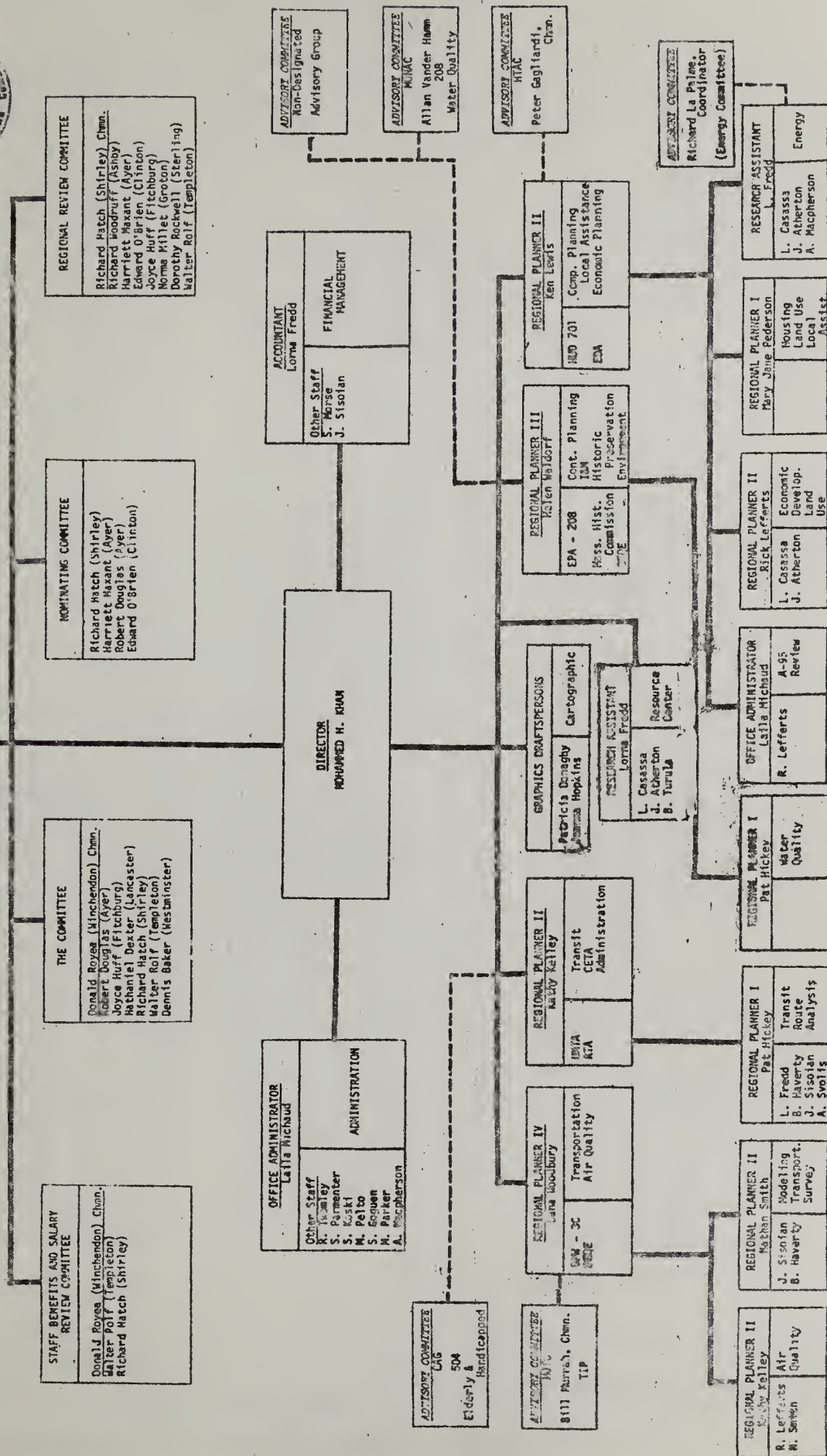


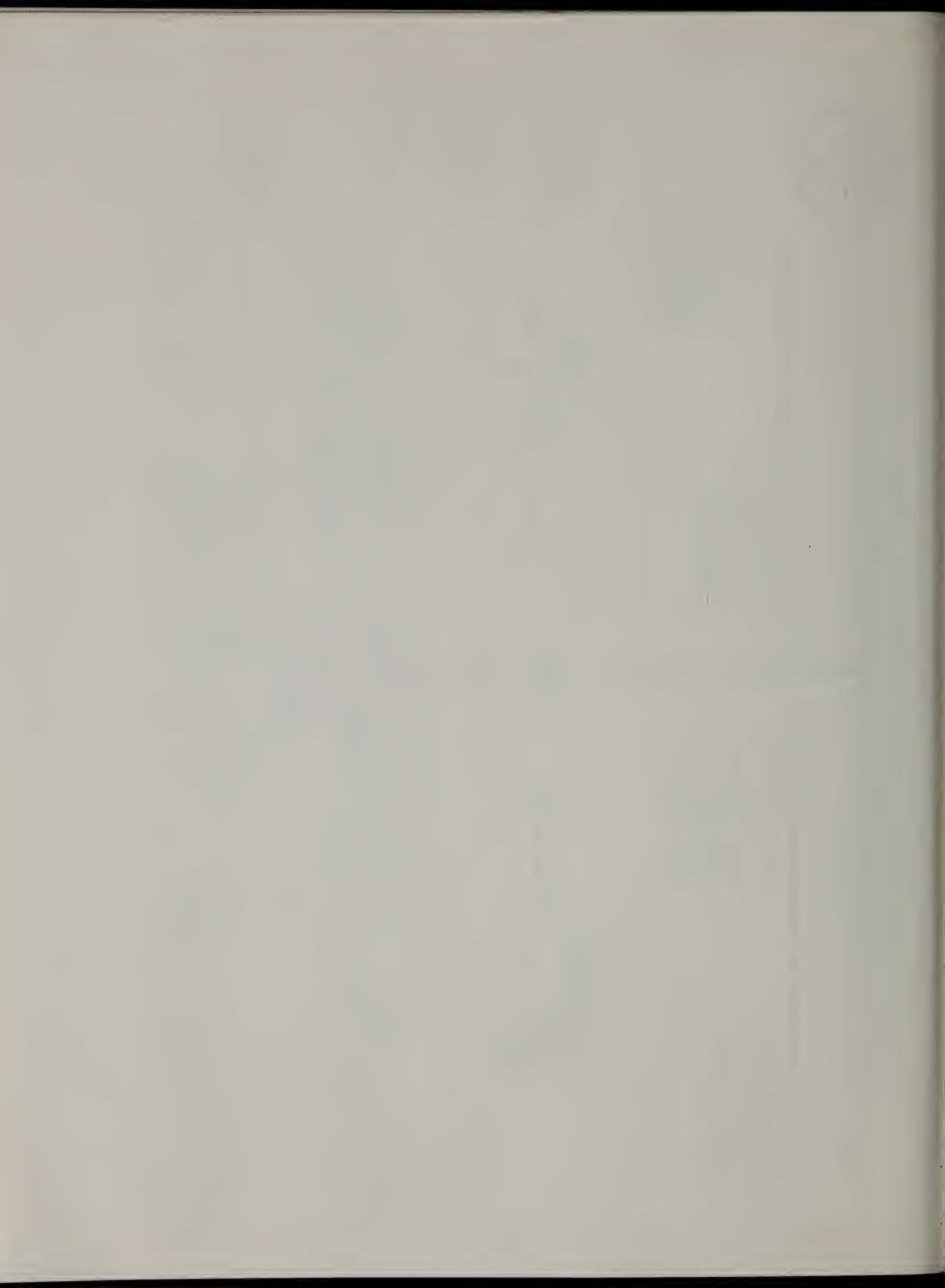




MONTACHUSETT REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
Donald Royce, Chm.; Nathaniel Dexter, V. Chm.; Walter Rolf, Sec.; Joyce Huff, Treas.; Dennis Baker, Assist. Treas.

Effective December 1, 1979





Montachusett Regional Planning Commission
Meeting Calendar
1980

January				
M	T	W	T	F
	H	2	3	4
7	8	9	10	11
14	H	16	17	18
21	22	23	24	25
28	29	30	31	

February				
M	T	W	T	F
				1
4	5	6	7	8
11	12	13	14	15
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March				
M	T	W	T	F
3	4	5	6	7
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24	25	26	27	28
31				

April				
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28	29	30		

May				
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19	20	21	22	23
H	27	28	29	30

June				
M	T	W	T	F
2	3	4	5	6
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16	17	18	19	20
23	24	25	26	27
30				

July				
M	T	W	T	F
	1	2	3	H
7	8	9	10	11
14	15	16	17	18
21	22	23	24	25
28	29	30	31	

August				
M	T	W	T	F
				1
4	5	6	7	8
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September				
M	T	W	T	F
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22	23	24	25	26
29	30			

October				
M	T	W	T	F
		1	2	3
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27	28	29	30	31

November				
M	T	W	T	F
3	4	5	6	7
10	HS	12	13	14
17	18	19	20	21
24	25	26	H	28

December				
M	T	W	T	F
1	2	3	4	5
8	9	10	11	12
15	16	17	18	19
22	23	24	H	26
29	30	31		

H- Holiday

HS- Holiday-Skelton Crew

○ - MRPC Meeting(7:30 p.m.)

□ - MJTC Meeting(7:30 p.m.)

⬢ - Regional Review Committee Meeting(7:30 p.m.)

△ - Montachusett-Nashua 208 Advisory Committee Meeting (7:30 p.m.)

□ - HTAC Meeting(2:00 p.m.)

⬢ - The Committee Meeting(7:30 p.m.)

□ - Energy Committee Meeting(7:30 p.m.)

MONTACHUSETT REGIONAL PLANNING
COMMISSION OVERVIEW FOR 1979

I N T R O D U C T I O N

The Montachusett Regional Planning Commission was formed under Chapter 40B of the General Laws of Massachusetts. This State Enabling Act provides for the creation of Regional Planning Commissions by communities of the Commonwealth, and establishes their powers, duties, and financial basis.

The Montachusett Regional Planning Commission is not a federal, state, or county agency. It is a regional agency created by, and responsible to, its member communities. Its powers are strictly advisory; therefore, it is not a regional government. The seventeen member communities represented on the Commission at this time are: Ashburnham, Ashby, Ayer, Clinton, Fitchburg, Gardner, Groton, Hubbardston, Lancaster, Leominster, Lunenburg, Shirley, Sterling, Templeton, Townsend, Westminster, and Winchendon. Fort Devens also participates as a member of the Commission.

The statutory purpose of the Montachusett Regional Planning Commission is to carry out comprehensive regional planning. The enabling legislation states that the Commission:

"...shall make careful studies of the resources, possibilities, and needs of this district and, on the basis of such studies, shall prepare a comprehensive or study plan for such district ...and make such recommendations for the physical, social, and economic improvement of the district as, in their opinion, will be in the best interest of the district."

Thus, the Commission's work takes two forms: developing and maintaining a comprehensive physical plan for the region and, on the basis of this plan, providing assistance to its member communities.

OVERVIEW OF THE MONTACHUSETT REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION ACTIVITIES

1 9 7 9

Although basic planning research will always be a part of the Montachusett Regional Planning Commission's activities, 1979 witnessed a shift in the Commission's work program from an emphasis on studies to actually implementing plans. This shift in emphasis reflects the maturity the Commission has attained as an organization. Now in its twelfth year of operation, the MRPC has over the years compiled a comprehensive body of the data about the Montachusett Region and is currently in a position to assist its member municipalities in carrying out plan recommendations, as per community desire.

One of the Commission's most significant achievements during the year was the publication of the Montachusett Regional Transportation Plan, which was completed in November, 1979. This document serves as a decision making tool for local, regional and state officials by identifying short and long range transportation improvements and programs designed to reinforce regional goals and policies. The Transportation Plan provides a set of recommended programs and actions which serve as a basis for transportation planning work activities of the Commission. Extensive use of previous regional studies, including the Fitchburg/Leominster and Clinton Early Output Elements and the Transit Development Program, insures that the Plan comprehensively addresses all regional transportation issues. In addition to implementing the Plan recommendations, the Montachusett Regional Planning Commission will continue to develop additional tools for use in refining and updating the Plan.

After nearly five years of study to determine the need and desirability for a mass transit system in the region, and based upon the MRPC's recommendations, the Montachusett Regional Transit Authority was formed in 1978. MART membership consists of the cities of Fitchburg, Leominster and Gardner. The mayors of the three cities compose the Advisory Board, and the MRPC Planning Director has been appointed Administrator of MART. On July 30, 1979, MART bus services were begun in Fitchburg and Leominster. Eleven fixed routes, as well as special van services for elderly and handicapped individuals, have been instituted. As well, a bus system will be implemented in Gardner during the spring of 1980. Several outlying communities have expressed interest in joining the Regional Transit Authority, which could result in future bus services being extended beyond the current area served.

MART, in cooperation with the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and the MBTA, was also instrumental in restoring train services between Gardner and Boston. As of January 13, 1980 four trains per day will be carrying passengers to and from Boston, with stops in Gardner, Fitchburg, North Leominster and Ayer in our region, as well as in Littleton. Aside from the obvious benefits of expanding cultural, educational and employment opportunities for Montachusett residents, the new mass transit system has enormous potential for cutting the region's gasoline consumption and will contribute towards its economic development.

In late 1979, the MRPC was awarded a grant to develop an implementation plan with regard to air quality standards for various pollutants. During the coming year, a broadly representative Air Quality Task Force will be established to serve in an advisory capacity for the preparation of this plan. Among the actions to be taken by the staff in cooperation with the Task Force will be the distribution of information to the general public on air pollution, identification of where emission problems exist, and recommendations as to control measures which can be implemented to improve the region's air quality.

In the area of water quality, the communities of Shirley and Westminster are currently participating in the MRPC's Septic System Inspection and Maintenance Program. Funded in part by a grant from the Environmental Protection Agency, this project will result in a record-keeping system that will enable the Boards of Health to keep track of septic system failures, corrective measures taken and, most importantly, educate homeowners on how to prevent failures through simple routine maintenance procedures.

Also emanating from the Commission's three year water quality study is a Continuing Planning Program that is partially funded by the Environmental Protection Agency. The Town of Clinton is participating in this project and has requested MRPC's assistance in implementing a lake restoration program for Coachlace, Mossy and South Meadow Ponds. Activities include technical assistance to the South Meadow Area Lake Management Association, the implementation of non-structural measures of water pollution abatement, and preparation of grant proposals for Lake Restoration funding to the Town under Section 314 of the Clean Water Act.

Recently, the MRPC initiated activities to secure designation for the Montachusett region as an Economic Development District. The MRPC has applied for provisional authorization status to the Economic Development Administration (EDA). Additional activities include the formation of an Overall Economic Development Program Committee and progress in preparing a regional economic development plan incorporating a development strategy and goals. Benefits to the region resulting from District designation will be administrative and planning assistance, specific development projects, strengthening of the tax base, and in certain cases a ten percent bonus on public works projects.

Other areas in which the Montachusett Regional Planning Commission was active during 1979 include energy, transportation, housing and land use planning, as well as the provision of technical assistance to member communities.

T H E C O M M I T T E E

Empowered by the Montachusett Regional Planning Commission to make policy recommendations, The Committee is a body of eight, selected by the Commission Chairman to meet once a month. Among its duties is the review of the overall operation of the Montachusett Regional Planning Commission including the management and financial decisions of the Director, job interviews and selection of prospective employees, as well as salary and adjustment figures for these employees, and overview of the Commission's Affirmative Action Program.

THE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Walter Woodruff

Robert Douglas

Joyce Huff

Nathaniel Dexter

Richard Hatch

Walter Rolf

Dennis Baker

Donald Royea

Ashby

Ayer

Fitchburg

Lancaster

Shirley

Templeton

Westminster

Winchendon

T R A N S P O R T A T I O N

Transportation planning in the Montachusett region is carried out as part of a cooperative, comprehensive and continuing process (3-C Process) involving state and local officials and the general public, to the fullest extent possible, in the development of a balanced transportation system serving the needs of the region's citizens.

MONTACHUSETT REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN

The Transportation Plan, completed in November, 1979, serves as a decision making tool for local, regional and state officials by identifying short and long range transportation improvements and programs designed to reinforce regional goals and policies. The Transportation Plan provides a framework or set of recommended programs and actions which serve as a basis for transportation planning work activities of the Montachusett Regional Planning Commission.

The preparation of the Transportation Plan involved a comprehensive analysis of socio-economic, land use, environmental and political factors affecting the several modal components of the regional transportation system now and in the foreseeable future. Extensive use of previous regional studies, including the Fitchburg/Leominster and Clinton Early Output Elements and the Transit Development Program, insures that the Plan comprehensively addresses all regional transportation issues.

The Transportation Plan is a dynamic document. Thus, in addition to implementing the Plan recommendations, the Montachusett Regional Planning Commission will continue to develop additional tools for use in refining and updating the Plan.

During the past year, the MRPC has completed the development of a mathematical model of 1975 regional highway travel. The model makes use of observed relationships between certain socio-economic data (such as, population, vehicle ownership, income and employment) and travel demand (trips per person) to generate estimates of average daily travel occurring in the region. Using future year estimates of socio-economic data the MRPC will develop forecasts of future travel demand as a tool for assessing the impacts of future land use development and roadway construction on vehicle travel.

The MRPC has also prepared road surface condition maps based on information in the MDPW "Statewide Road Inventory File." These maps are being reviewed by the local communities so that they may be updated for use as an additional project planning tool.

An additional evaluation tool developed in 1979 is a compilation of high accident locations in the MRPC region. Based on estimates of the danger posed to the motoring public at various intersections and on certain road segments, the MRPC will investigate the causes of accidents at select locations and recommend improvements to reduce accidents at these locations.

TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

The ultimate result of the 3-C Transportation Planning Process is a program of projects to be implemented. This program is annually updated and presented as the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). This document provides a prioritized listing of both Annual Element (current Federal Fiscal Year) and Future Element (2-5 successive Federal Fiscal Years) federally funded transportation projects in the region.

The priority list, determined by a citizens' advisory task force appointed by the MJTC, provides a guideline for state and federal decision makers for funding of regional transportation projects.

The top 20 priorities in the Transportation Improvement Program for 1979 are:

- 1A - I-190
- 1 - Route 2 - Fitchburg, Leominster, Westminster
- 2 - Route 140 Gardner
- 3 - Route 2/13 Interchange - Leominster
- 4 - Route 101 - Templeton
- 5 - Fitchburg Connector - Fitchburg
- 6 - Clinton Connector - Clinton
- 7 - Routes 110/111 - Harvard
- 8 - Route 31 - Ashby
- 9 - Matthews Street - Gardner
- 10 - Laurel/Kimball Street - Fitchburg
- 11 - Groton/Shirley Road - Ayer
- 12 - Route 68 - Hubbardston
- 13 - Barre Road - Templeton
- 14 - Betty Spring Road - Gardner
- 15 - Fisher Road - Fitchburg
- 16 - Ashburnham Hill Road/Scott Road/Rindge Road - Fitchburg
- 17 - Industrial Road/Crawford Street Connector - Leominster/
Fitchburg
- 18 - Harvard Street - Leominster
- 19 - Route 2A - Lunenburg
- 20 - Route 119 - Ashby/Ashburnham

TRANSIT DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

Funding from the Urban Mass Transportation Administration in the form of a Section 8, Technical Study Grant of \$50,700 was awarded to the Montachusett Regional Planning Commission for the period of Jan. 1, 1979 - Dec. 31, 1979. Under this grant technical assistance was provided to the Montachusett Regional Transit Authority, a marketing report was prepared indicating techniques used by the Montachusett Regional Transit Authority in its marketing program and work was initiated on the preparation of a Transition Plan in compliance with implementing Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. Section 504 calls for Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Handicaps in facilities, programs and employment opportunities.

During the first six months of 1979 members of the commission staff met several times with local elected officials in Fitchburg, Leominster and Gardner preparing final routings and schedules for transit service to be provided by the Montachusett Regional Transit Authority in Fitchburg and Leominster. Service was implemented on July 30, 1979 with eleven fixed routes: three inter city, five intra Fitchburg and three intra Leominster. In addition a supplemental "special service" utilizing a van equipped with a hydraulic lift for elderly and handicapped individuals who cannot utilize fixed-route service was instituted. Also, in July a Section 5 operational application was submitted to UMTA.

On the November 6, 1979 ballot in Fitchburg there was a referendum item concerning whether or not Fitchburg should remain a member of the Regional Transit Authority. The resounding vote, 4-1, in favor of transit authority membership indicates the desire for continuing transit service in Fitchburg.

The Commission provided technical assistance to Gardner in the preparation and submittal of a Section 18 application for federal funding and transit services in non-urbanized areas. Gardner will begin service sometime between April - July 1980.

A marketing report is in the final stages of preparation and is a documentation of all MART marketing and promotional activities carried out during 1979.

A citizen participation Transition Plan committee was formed in September 1979 to actively participate throughout the Transition Plan development. In cooperation with the citizens' participation committee, local officials, the management of the transit authority, the Montachusett Regional Planning Commission as a Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) has assessed current MART transit service, i.e., vehicles, facilities, services, and policies and practices, as to accessibility to Elderly and Handicapped individuals.

MONTACHUSETT JOINT
TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

Established in 1976 under agreements among the co-sponsoring agencies (Montachusett Regional Planning Commission, Department of Public Works, and the Executive Office of Transportation and Construction), the Montachusett Joint Transportation Committee was formed in order to provide the mechanism for an open and broadly participatory intermodal transportation planning process with maximum involvement on the part of local officials and citizenry. This leads to a program implementing the recommendations of the Montachusett Joint Transportation Committee toward an eventual transportation system which will provide for the most efficient movement of people and goods at a minimum cost. The transportation planning process is an integral part of the general planning process as undertaken by the Montachusett Regional Planning Commission.

The composition of the Montachusett Joint Transportation Committee consists of members selected annually by the Mayor or Board of Selectmen of each community and by the Planning Board, selecting either a member or representative of that Board. Exofficio members (those who are present at meetings, but are non-consensus makers) consist of representatives of the Massachusetts Department of Public Works, including a representative of the District Office, the Bureau of Project Development, and the Bureau of Transportation Planning, a representative of the Secretary of Transportation and Construction, and a representative of the Montachusett Regional Planning Commission.

1979

MONTACHUSETT JOINT TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Members

Dexter Gilchrest
Richard Woodruff
Ruth Proctor
Maurice MacDonald
Thomas Cunningham
Robert Maliska
Arthur Young
Dann Chamberlin
Mary Jane Gregg
James Chalke
Thomas Picucci
William Murrah
Robert Ebersole
Robert McBrine
William Kaminski
Walter Rolf
Peter Normandin
Kim Posich

Appointed by

Board of Selectmen, Ashby
Planning Board, Ashby
Board of Selectmen, Ayer
Planning Board, Ayer
Planning Board, Fitchburg
Mayor, Gardner
Planning Board, Gardner
Board of Selectmen, Groton
Board of Selectmen, Harvard
Board of Selectmen, Lancaster
Mayor, Leominster
Planning Board, Leominster
Planning Board, Lunenburg
Planning Board, Shirley
Planning Board, Sterling
Board of Selectmen, Templeton
Planning Board, Westminster
Planning Board, Winchendon

ORGANIZATIONAL MEMBERS

Joyce Huff
John Clark
Dennis Randall
Richard Woodruff
Bedford Kaddy
Joseph Raimon
Donald Frigoletto

Nashua River Watershed Association
Montachusett Opportunity Council
League of Women Voters, Fitchburg
North Worcester County Board of Realtors
Fitchburg Council of Aging
A.T.U. Local #690
Fitchburg Airport Commission

EXOFFICIO MEMBERS

Walter Rolf
Paul Patneaude

Barry Faulkner

Montachusett Regional Planning Commission
Mass. Department of Public Works
Bureau of Transportation Planning and
Development
Executive Office of Transportation and
Construction

2 0 8 A R E A W I D E W A T E R Q U A L I T Y

M A N A G E M E N T P R O G R A M

In early 1979, the MRPC submitted the final Environmental Impact Statement for the Montachusett-Nashua Areawide Water Quality Management Program. This effort included a review of problems and solutions in both point source and non-point source water pollution in the 14 communities of the designated area. There has been a particular emphasis, in the planning activities of the past year, on identifying diffuse sources of pollution such as poor septic tank maintenance and the role of land use in lake eutrophication. At this time the plan is under review by the state for final certification.

As a part of the overall plan, the remainder of the year has been devoted to implementing solutions to non-point source pollution. Technical assistance in designated communities has included the following activities:

Subsurface Disposal Inspection and Maintenance Program

The Technical Memorandum for the first quarter's activities was submitted to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Department of Environmental Quality Engineering (DEQE) in July. This document described the review of existing recordkeeping systems for on-lot septage disposal in Shirley, Westminster and Groton. Those septic systems which had required permits for repair between 1971 and 1979 were identified and located on community base maps. A questionnaire for individual homeowners was also developed as a part of the first quarter's activities.

During the second quarter of this project, a questionnaire was administered in Groton, Shirley and Westminster, to homeowners who had applied for repair permits between 1971 and 1979. An overlay of problem types, based on questionnaire results, was prepared for each community base map. The results of this effort showed that septic system problems caused by poor maintenance practices were widely dispersed throughout each of the communities. Problems caused by environmental limitations or inadequate capacity showed special patterns on the base maps of each community.

A profile of the septic disposal situation in each community was also described. Generally the two most common problem causes were inadequate capacity of the originally installed system or old age, with environmental limitations or poor maintenance practices generally cited as contributing causes. In all three towns, homeowners would benefit from the distribution of an operation, maintenance and water conservation manual.

A "short form" of the questionnaire, containing the most crucial diagnostic information on septic systems, will be formulated into a recordkeeping system. Such a system would be used to locate potential problem areas, provide a means to send reminders on proper pumping maintenance and provide a record of educational literature distributed to individual homeowners.

Alternatives for community pumping programs are now being examined in more detail. A system of pumping all septic systems, for example, would cost on the order of \$30,000 per year and produce about 900,000 gallons per year of septage to be disposed of in each community. Future activities in the Inspection and Maintenance Program will include a detailed examination of the septage disposal issue, preparation of an operation, maintenance and water conservation manual, and the initiation of a recordkeeping system.

Continuing Planning Program

In early 1979 the "Lake Management Program for South Meadow, Mossy, and Coachlace Ponds" was completed under contract with the Town of Clinton. The recommendations of this document included the management of septic systems, farm property and the Clinton landfill. To further assist Clinton, the MRPC applied to EPA and DEQE for funds under the 208 Continuing Planning Program. The proposal was accepted. The Clinton Lake Management Project is now under way. In 1979, the activities under this grant included technical assistance to the South Meadow Area Lake Management Association (SMALMA), to abate the sources of eutrophication in South Meadow, Mossy and Coachlace Ponds.

The MRPC is now assisting SMALMA and the Town of Clinton in implementing the non-structural measures of water pollution abatement as recommended in the earlier report on this problem (See above).

The preparation of grant proposals to EPA and the Division of Water Pollution Control for Lake Restoration under Section 314 of the Clean Water Act should be completed by early 1980.

As a part of the Continuing Planning Grant other projects in member communities are now being evaluated. The communities of Lancaster, Leominster and Ayer have responded with letters of interest.

"Non-Designated" Water Quality Planning

The so called "Non-Designated" communities (Ashburnham, Gardner, Hubbardston, Templeton and Winchendon) were the subject of a year long study of point source and non-point source water quality problems, which was begun in 1978.

Under contract with the Department of Environmental Quality Engineering, the MRPC identified conflicts between projected development and environmentally sensitive areas in each of the five communities. The Draft Water Quality Management Plan was completed in June of 1979 and was reviewed at a public meeting in October. Comments received from concerned individuals on each community were incorporated into the Draft. The final Water Quality Management Plan should be ready for printing sometime in early 1980.

M O N A C

The Montachusett-Nashua 208 Advisory Committee was reorganized in October of 1979. This committee is the primary vehicle for public participation on water quality issues of the region. Responsibilities include the review of federal and state funded projects which involve impacts on water resources. This committee also helped to prepare the FY 1980 Water Quality Proposal for water supply protection. This project will be funded and begin in May, 1980.

Montachusett-Nashua 208 Advisory Committee

Ronald Thompson
Ralph Perkins
William Murrah
Richard Coswell
Gerald Collins
David Naparstek
Charlene Rocheleau
William R. Nicholls
Joyce Lange
Malcolm R. Fortune
Ruth Mayor
Norman E. Burt
Paul Turini
Lois Murray
Joyce Huff
Allan Vander Hamm
Robert Carlson
Thomas Duffy
Roland Rocheleau
Daniel Solomon
Marilyn Clark
Marion Meyers
Robert Kaddy
Dori Drury
Sherwin Drury
Larry McMillan
Suzanne Kilner

Holden Soil Conservation Service
Nashua River Watershed Association
Leominster, Planning Director
Crocker Technical Paper
Nashoba Boards of Health
Nashoba Boards of Health
Leominster League of Women Voters
Env. Management Officer, Fort Devens
Leominster League of Women Voters
Leominster, Engineering Division
Conservation Commission, Fitchburg
James River
Clinton
Nashua River Watershed Association

Chmn. South Meadow Lake Area Association
Leominster, Board of Health
Simonds Cutting Tools
Westminster Planning Board
Holden Soil Conservation Service
League of Women Voters, Leominster
Clinton Daily Item
New England Conservation District

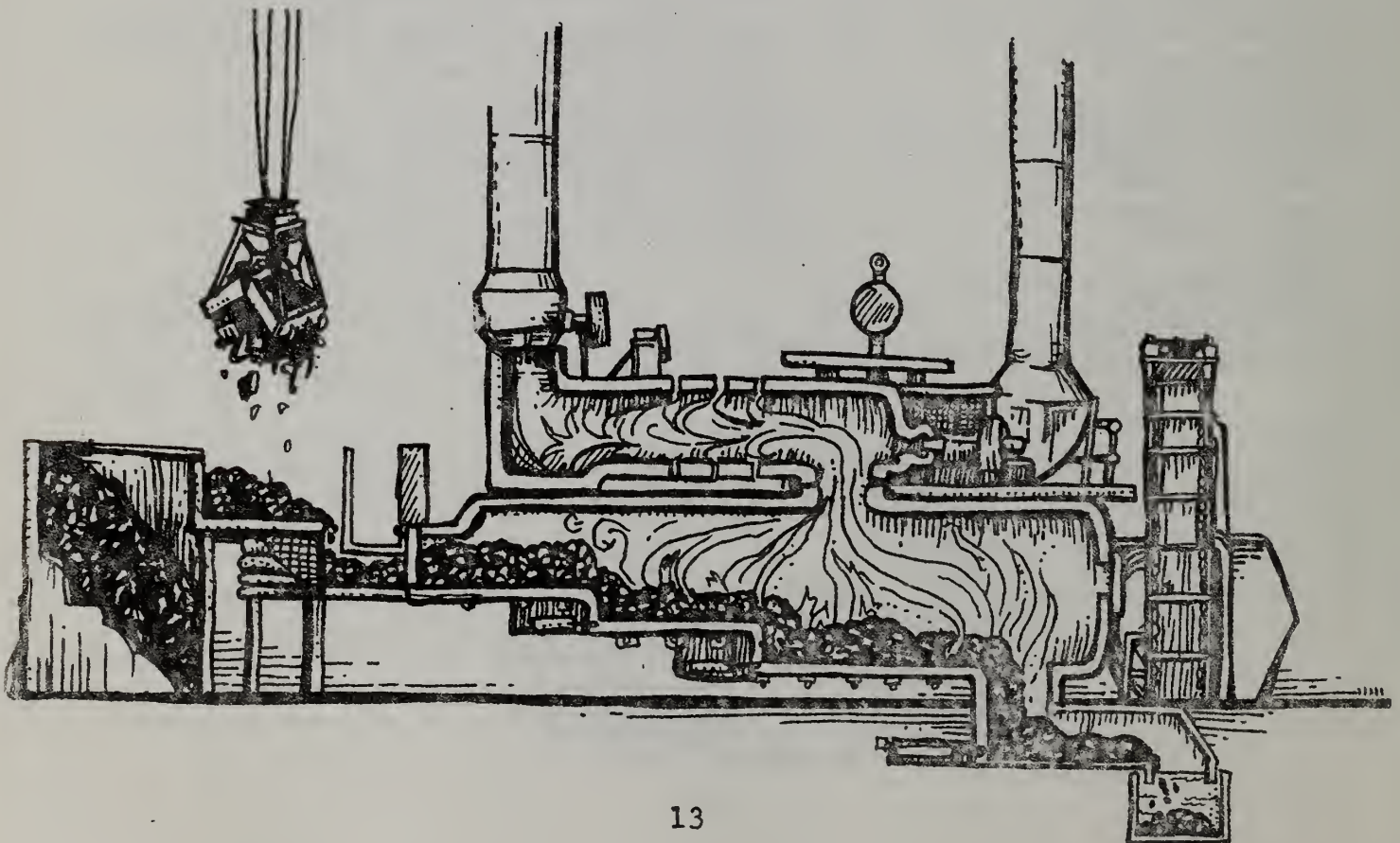
EPA, Region 1
DEQE, Boston, MA



R E S O U R C E R E C O V E R Y

In October, the Montachusett Regional Planning Commission and the City of Leominster sponsored an areawide workshop on resource recovery alternatives. Specifically, several member communities are facing limited landfill space over the next 20 years for the disposal of solid waste. At the workshop, several speakers related their experience in planning and implementing systems which recover energy and materials from solid waste. The feasibility of this concept for the Montachusett Region is now being explored in detail.

At the present time, the MRPC has applied under several energy and solid waste grant programs to fund a proposed Resource Recovery Commercialization Project. Using the concept of an energy from waste system as a private industrial development (rather than a municipal public works project) the MRPC and member communities will seek to draw a resource recovery investment into the region. By doing the initial site screening and community contract negotiations, the MRPC hopes to attract a private resource recovery facility to generate energy from solid waste. Such a facility will be modular in concept. An artist's conception of a modular, steam generations, waste to energy system appears below. Such a system is now on the "wish" list for MRPC in the 10 year planning horizon.



E N E R G Y

Activities undertaken during 1979 included the development of an energy data base for the Montachusett Region. This data base includes, in part, historical cost and consumption figures (by year) since 1970, for oil, natural gas, and electricity. This also includes breakdowns by sector - residential, municipal, commercial, and industrial. The purpose of this data collection is to develop a comprehensive understanding of the impact of energy costs from past to present. After an analysis of economic impact has been completed, the staff will then begin to look at conservation measures and alternative energy feasibility and make recommendations accordingly.

An energy library/information clearinghouse has also been developed to assist local residents in obtaining general information about energy and available tax incentives.

Fuel crisis contingency planning was begun in August to assist member communities in preparing for two potential problems during the winter of 1979-1980: the possibility of a shortage of heating oil and the hardships facing low and moderate income families unable to afford increasing fuel costs. This effort was begun in conjunction with such groups as local Civil Defense Chapters, Montachusett Opportunity Council, Montachusett Home Care Center, Councils on Aging, and others. In addition, our energy staff addressed meetings, of town officials in Clinton, Lancaster, Templeton, Ashburnham, Westminster, Fitchburg and Leominster to provide information about the scope of the likely problems, some of the possible solutions and the status of federal and state legislation to provide assistance.

A memo was sent to member municipalities, schools, and hospitals providing information about the upcoming Department of Energy Conservation matching fund program. The purpose of this memo was to offer member towns and cities an opportunity to get first crack at funds which are being offered on a competitive ranking basis.

The energy staff also compiled information on the region's hydro-electric potential. Information was obtained on dam sites in the Montachusett area along with potential power output from studies compiled by the New England River Basins Commission, the State Energy Office, and the Army Corps of Engineers. In addition, work was done with the Department of Energy Regional Office in Boston to obtain information about the low-interest loan program presently available for determination of the feasibility of low-head hydro sites.

The last and most intensive energy effort of the Commission was in aiding the Fitchburg Action to Conserve Energy Program (FACE). FACE was a community wide winterization effort and the first of its kind in the nation. It successfully impacted approximately half the households in Fitchburg. For this effort, the Commission provided the assistance of three staff members for the duration of the project (three months). Among the services provided were coordination of the planning and management task force, central staff coordination of the crew assistance program for elderly, ill, or handicapped persons. The Commission was rewarded in its efforts through the valuable experience gained by the staff members who participated. This experience is now available for other member communities to draw from in developing similar conservation programs.

E N E R G Y A D V I S O R Y C O M M I T T E E

In addition to its role as an advisory body to the MRPC on energy matters, the Energy Advisory Committee has been active during the past year in disseminating information to the public on energy issues through its sponsorship of a series of educational presentations. In these seminars, such topics as solar hot water heating systems, heating with wood, and energy conservation were addressed, and plans for continuation of the energy education program are currently underway. The Energy Advisory Committee meets at MRPC offices on the second Wednesday of each month, and interested citizens are encouraged to attend.

ENERGY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Margaret Alfke
John Oinonen
Thomas Prendergast
Mark Kimmel
Walter Rolf
Joseph Cormier
Paul E. Tsongas
Dennis Randall
Norman Clemence
Robert Drinan
Nadia Beiser
James Rodier
Dale McCloud
Don Smith
William Murrah
Evelyn Rubin
Jeffrey Bean
Joyce Huff
Richard Hatch
James Lanciani
Richard LaPalme
Linda Moody
Walter Woodruff
Bill Burling

Lancaster
ECAP II
Westminster
Fitchburg Civil Defense
Templeton
Energy Services, Inc.
Senator
Fitchburg
Sterling
Congressman
Hubbardston
N-Con Systems
Fitchburg
Townsend
Leominster Planning Department
Montachusett Opportunity Council
Fitchburg
MRPC
MRPC
Leominster Civil Defense
Templeton
Rural Housing Improvements, Inc.
MRPC
Westminster



T H E 7 0 1 P R O G R A M

The Montachusett Regional Planning Commission's 701 Planning Program deals primarily with three functional areas -- housing, economic development and land use implementation. The first half of 1979 marked the Montachusett Regional Planning Commission's completion of a draft Areawide Housing Opportunity Plan (AHOP). The purpose of the AHOP is to serve as a guide to HUD for the future allocation of housing assistance in the Montachusett Region. The AHOP will require the official support of at least 50 percent of the local jurisdictions representing 75 percent of the region's population before it will be approved by HUD. An approved AHOP will provide supporting communities with an additional 50 bonus points on Community Development Block Grant preapplications and allow the region to become eligible for special allocations of Section 8 funding.

In November of 1979, the Montachusett Regional Planning Commission entered into a contractual agreement with the Town of Clinton to conduct a study of housing conditions. The purpose of the Clinton Housing Study is to update information on the number, type and physical condition of dwelling units, plus provide data as to the housing assistance needs of Clinton residents. The information generated by the Housing Study will provide Clinton with documentation which can be used in applying for Community Development Block Grant and other funding assistance.

The Montachusett Regional Planning Commission was also involved this past year in supporting activities which promote housing opportunities for local residents. In December the Montachusett Regional Planning Commission, together with the Montachusett Opportunity Council, co-sponsored a public meeting to generate support for the proposed legislation to establish a Housing Court in Worcester County. In addition, the Commission has taken an active role in addressing the policies of funding agencies, including HUD's Section 8 allocation and Fair Market Rent schedules proposed for the Montachusett Region.

During 1979 the Montachusett Regional Planning Commission has substantially increased its capacity in economic development planning and technical assistance activities. Data collection activities have been undertaken leading to the preparation of a Regional Economic Development Plan. The economic development plan will be incorporated with other planning elements to form an integrated data base and development objectives of a Montachusett Regional Planning Commission Comprehensive Plan. Additionally, the Montachusett Regional Planning Commission has initiated the process that will culminate with the Montachusett Region being designated an Economic Development District by the Economic Development Administration.

Since mid-year, the staff of the Montachusett Regional Planning Commission has been engaged in a Master Planning Program for the Town of Hubbardston. This work was undertaken in part on a contractual basis with the Hubbardston Planning Board. The Base Data Report has incorporated research and planning activities of all the Commis-

sion's functional units. Additionally, the Master Plan will identify key problems and constraints within the town and establish the basis for growth management implementation alternatives.

The Montachusett Regional Planning Commission has utilized its technical assistance activities to promote orderly growth and provide technical assistance to a wide range of interests and individuals. During the past year, both private and public interests have utilized the resources, staff, and materials of the Commission. Several member communities and interest groups have sought and received assistance from the Commission for the preparation of grants for program support and market analysis for proposed development. Special assistance has been provided to member communities for the development of Community Development Block Grants and the Urban Development Action Grant proposals and the Overall Economic Development Plan Labor Market reports. Additional areas where assistance was provided included housing, economic development, land use, socio-economic data, and general information.

The Montachusett Regional Planning Commission has also provided the Housing Technical Advisory Committee with staff support. Established in early 1971, the Housing Technical Advisory Committee fulfills a variety of functions. Among these, the Housing Technical Advisory Committee serves to promote the achievement of safe, sanitary, and adequate housing for every household in the Region. As well, it serves as a clearinghouse for information, technical assistance, and the like, such as disseminating information on programs currently available to cities, towns, and individuals as requested, participating in A-95 reviews, and clarifying and amplifying the housing needs in the area.

Membership to the Housing Technical Advisory Committee consists of delegates and alternates chosen annually from each of the following groups: local housing authorities, community action committees, non-profit housing groups, regional, state, and federal housing agencies, community interest groups, housing related private associations, housing related municipal agencies (housing code enforcement agencies, planning boards, health boards, planning departments), and appointees of boards of selectmen and mayors with confirmation of the city council.

HOUSING TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Timothy M. Stewart
Thomas A. Cunningham
Theodore J. Koban
Benjamin Hansberry
Peter Gagliardi
Gary Berger
Anne Parnes
Kathleen Jamieson
Anna May
Rita Bourgeois
Barbara Schmuier
Kenneth F. Fortin
John E. Coulter, Jr.
Robert Carlson
William Coles
Harriett Maxant
Andrienne G. Clark
Nicholas Miserendino
John Nygard
Dorothy Rockwell
Richard A Gass
George I. Wallin
Linda J. Paris
Joyce Huff
Douglas L. Cringan
Robert R. Blakely
Walfred G. Erickson
Donald Siver
Frederick M. Billings
Marion Gage
Walter Rolf
Robert Brewer
Philip J. Sullivan
Martin T. Ready
Thomas A. Picucci
Frances Moulton

Fitchburg Planning Department
Fitchburg Planning Department
Central Mass. Legal Services
North Worcester County Board of Realtors
Rural Housing Improvements
Rural Housing Improvements
Leominster League of Women Voters
Townsend Elderly Housing Corporation
Townsend Elderly Housing Corporation
Gardner
F&L Planned Housing
Fitchburg Board of Health
Fitchburg Board of Health
Leominster Board of Health
Leominster Board of Health
Ayer Planning Board
Fitchburg Housing Authority
Fitchburg Housing Authority
Templeton
MRPC
Hubbardston
Westminster Housing Authority
Westminster Housing Authority
Fitchburg Planning Board
Fitchburg
Gardner
Gardner
S. Lancaster
S. Lancaster
Westminster Housing Authority
MRPC
Templeton Board of Health
Winchendon Housing Authority
Winchendon Housing Authority
Leominster
Leominster Planning Board



H I S T O R I C P R E S E R V A T I O N

In the Fall of 1978, The Montachusett Regional Planning Commission completed "The Historic Architecture of the Montachusett Region". In the Spring of 1979 all of the copies of this document had been distributed to member communities and interested individuals. The demand for this report has evidenced a real need for technical expertise in the field of local historic preservation.

This document was also used to write a proposal for a Regional Historic Preservation Assistance Project in order to better assist local Historic Commission's with building surveys and the formation of Historic Districts in the Montachusett area. In August, the MRPC's proposal was ranked by the Massachusetts Historic Commission as number four out of 34 projects on the state priority list. The project will be funded beginning in February of 1980 and will run approximately one year.



A - 9 5 R E G I O N A L C L E A R I N G H O U S E

Coordinating the many federal, state, and local projects taking place in the Region is a key responsibility of the Commission. The Montachusett Regional Planning Commission carries out its coordinating role for the 17 member communities primarily through the A-95 Clearinghouse Review process, which consists of reviewing project proposals in the area that will involve federal, state, and local funds.

Circular A-95 was established by the Office of Management and Budget to achieve continuity and coordination between governmental funding sources, receivers of the governmental funding and those affected by the funded projects. It is not the intent of the procedure to obstruct any worthy project, but rather provide a means whereby all local, county, and regional resources can be effectively utilized in securing final completion of needed projects.

The Montachusett Regional Planning Commission's Regional Review Committee carries out this responsibility by holding a monthly public meeting to review proposed projects which will effect a change on the quality of life in the area. This public meeting process allows all residents, communities, and agencies of the region to make their viewpoint known and, therefore, be taken under advisement before the federal agency grants funding to the proposed project. As well, this system allows residents, communities, and agencies to protect their own interests as well as provides an opportunity to support projects which are needed and beneficial to the region's welfare.

Regional Review Committee meeting agendas are posted in all city/town clerks' offices and distributed to newspapers one week prior to the meeting. Agencies which could be impacted by the proposed projects are also notified of the Review. Those agencies which have established a formal Memorandum of Understanding with the Montachusett Regional Planning Commission include the Central Massachusetts Health Systems Agency, Fitchburg Committee to Remove Architectural Barriers, Fitchburg Human Rights Commission, Department of Community Affairs, Department of Environmental Quality Engineering, Executive Office of Transportation and Construction, Environmental Protection Agency, Metropolitan Area Planning Council, Massachusetts Department of Public Works, Northern Middlesex Area Commission, and the Soil Conservation Service.

Projects which have been reviewed in 1978 are listed on the following pages. The projects are listed by the month in which they were reviewed and include the name of the applicant, funding agency, amount of funds requested, and the Montachusett Regional Planning Commission's action. CONFORMITY indicates that the project did not conflict with regional goals. CONFORMITY WITH COMMENT indicates the proposal was in conformity with most goals but could be modified to improve its impact upon the region.

REGIONAL REVIEW COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Walter R. Woodruff	Ashby
Harriett Maxant	Ayer
Joyce Huff	Fitchburg
Norma Millet	Groton
Richard Hatch	Shirley
Dorothy Rockwell	Sterling
Walter H. Rolf	Templeton
Donald Royea	Winchendon

JANUARY 1979

Community Planning & Development Association
Homestead Gardens Elderly Housing Project

FmHA loan \$3,600,000
Applicant 180,000
\$3,780,000

Conformity with Comment

Town of Clinton

Downtown Revitalization Program (CDBG)

HUD \$2,000,000

Conformity

Town of Lancaster

Groton - Lancaster Home Improvement & Conservation Program

HUD \$450,000

Conformity

Leominster Council on Aging

Renovation of Senior Center

U.S. Dept. HEW \$8,325

Private 2,775

\$11,100

Conformity

City of Gardner

CDBG

HUD \$499,687

Conformity

Town of Winchendon

Phased Rehabilitation & Reconstruction Program

HUD \$450,000

Conformity

Central Massachusetts Regional Planning Commission

Metropolitan Capacity Building Demonstration Program

EDA \$100,000

Applicant 18,334

Other 15,000

\$133,334

Conformity

FEBRUARY

Gardner Rehabilitation Housing, Inc.

Catherine Street Housing

HUD \$270,000

Conformity

Metropolitan District Commission

Step 2 Design - Clinton Wastewater Treatment Plant

EPA \$615,000

Commonwealth of Massachusetts 205,000

\$820,000

Conformity with Comment

MARCH

City of Fitchburg

CDBG

HUD \$1,433,000

Conformity

Town of Clinton

Sewer System Rehabilitation

EPA

Commonwealth of Massachusetts 20,000

Local 4,200

Total

\$55,700

Conformity

City of Leominster

CDBG

HUD \$531,000

Conformity

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Special Commission on Effects of Growth

Local Growth Management in Rural Massachusetts

FmHA \$50,000

Commonwealth of Massachusetts 16,667

\$66,667

Comment - Disapproved because RPAs should handle this function

APRIL

Central Massachusetts Health Systems Agency
Continuation Funding
U.S.D.H.E.W. \$351,732
Applicant 21,449
Total \$373,181
Conformity - transmit comments received

Gardner - Athol Mental Health Center
Continuation Staffing Grant \$350,921
HEW \$150,395
Commonwealth of Massachusetts \$501,316

Conformity

Green Thumb, Inc.
Continuation Funding Preapplication
Total \$80,467,469
Conformity

HOC Family Planning
Supplemental Grant
HEW \$5,794
Applicant 1,200
Total \$6,994
Conformity

Town of Ayer
Wastewater and Collection Treatment Facility
FmHA \$1,600,000
Conformity

MAY

DEQE
Water Quality Management Planning Program
EPA
Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Conformity

MAY (continued)

EOTC
Technical Studies Grant \$180,000
UMTA 45,000
Commonwealth of Massachusetts \$225,000

Conformity

Mass Aeronautics Comm./Fitchburg Airport Conn.
Master Plan Study - Fitchburg \$45,440
FHA 5,680
Commonwealth of Massachusetts 5,680
Local \$56,800

Conformity with Comment

City of Gardner
Transit Service for Gardner \$57,860
UMTA 28,930
Commonwealth of Massachusetts 28,930
City of Gardner 28,930
Total \$115,720

Conformity with Comment

Quabbin Community Band Auxiliary, Inc.
Community Facility Loan
FmHA \$40,000
Conformity

Central Massachusetts Regional Planning Commission
Comprehensive Planning Assistance Grant (701)
HUD \$25,000
Local 12,500
Total \$37,500

Conformity

Town of Clinton
Step 2 & 3 - Application for Sewer System Rehabilitation
FHA \$30,400
Commonwealth of Massachusetts 6,100
Applicant 5,600
Total \$42,300

Conformity

MAY (continued)

Dementian Guschorr, Jr.
Groton Housing for the Elderly
FHA \$1,614,753
Applicant 84,987
Total \$1,699,740
Conformity

JUNE

HOC
Summer Youth Recreation Program
CSA \$6,000
Conformity

HOC
Continuing Support for NECAP Directors Association

CSA \$63,000
Conformity

North Central Human Services Inc.
Handicapped Transportation
EOTC \$12,000
Local 3,200
Total \$16,000
Conformity

HOC
Local Income Planning Aide
CSA \$279,147
Conformity

City of Gardner
CDBG
HUD \$125,000
Conformity - Transit Comments

Montachusett Regional Planning Commission-
Comprehensive Planning Program
HUD \$34,000
Applicant 17,000
Total \$51,000
Conformity

JULY

Town of Shirley
Facilities Planning - New Facilities
EPA \$10,750
Applicant 6,250
Local 1,000
Total \$26,000
Conformity with Comment

Massachusetts Association for the Blind
Project Outreach
DHEW \$45,875
Applicant 5,544
Other 13,720
Total \$65,139
Conformity

Montachusett Regional Planning Commission
Air Quality Planning Program
UMTA \$20,750
Conformity

Montachusett Regional Transit Authority
Section 5 Operating Assistance
UMTA \$162,433
State 81,217
Local 81,217
Total \$324,867
Conformity

AUGUST

HOC
Local Initiative
CSA \$175,000
Local 43,750
Total \$218,750
Conformity

Mental Health Association of N. Central Mass., Inc.
Child Abuse Prevention Program
Office of Human Development Services \$95,000
Conformity

SEPTEMBER (continued)

NOC, Inc.
NOC NECAP Directors Association Energy Advocacy Project
CSA \$100,000
Conformity - transmit Comments

Continental Wingate Company, Inc.
Waterway Apartments
Mass. Housing Finance Agency -
Section 8 Rental Assistance (HUD) \$3,261,372
Conformity - with Comments

OCTOBER

DECE
203 Water Quality Management Implementation Projects
EPA \$921,520
Conformity

Department of Environmental Management, Bureau of Solid Waste Disposal
Solid and Hazardous Waste Management Program (Subtitle D)
EPA \$367,920
State 177,200
Total \$545,120
Conformity

Department of Environmental Management, Bureau of Solid Waste Disposal
Solid & Hazardous Waste Management Program (Subtitle C)
EPA \$395,994
State 46,714
Total \$442,706
Conformity

Town of Lunenburg
CDBG Small Cities Program for Installation of Water Mains
HUD \$260,000
Conformity

Town of Clinton
CDBG Small Cities Program for Clinton Downtown Revitalization Program
HUD \$300,000
Conformity

OCTOBER (continued)

City of Gardner
CDBG Small Cities Program for Housing Rehabilitation & Public Facilities
HUD \$300,000
Conformity with Comment

Town of Townsend
Construction of Water Mains, Pump Station & Gravel Packed Well
Farmers Home Administration \$243,450
Conformity

Town of Lancaster
CDBG Small Cities Program for Home Improvement & Conservation Program
HUD \$300,000
Conformity with Comment

Montachusett Regional Planning Commission
Technical Studies Grant Application
UMTA \$55,624
Local 13,906
Total \$69,530
Conformity

NOVEMBER

Mental Health Association of North Central Mass., Inc.
Operating Grant
Federal (Public Health Services) \$810,000
Applicant 850,000
State 1,638,069
Local 186,441
Other 81,490
Total \$3,566,000
Conformity with Comment

Montachusett Regional Planning Commission
Land Use Management for Non-Point Source Pollution Control
EPA \$22,740
Local 7,590
Total \$30,320
Conformity

NOVEMBER (continued)

City of Fitchburg
Fitchburg-FACE Self-Help Energy Conservation Program
U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development \$95,000
State 5,000
Total \$100,000
Conformity

Fort Devens E.I.S. - Ongoing Mission Activities
Conformity

New England Machine Rebuilders & Manufacturing Co., in Leominster
Industrial Revenue Bond for Industrial Development
Facilities Expansion
Total \$270,000
Conformity

Main Street Associates of Leominster
Industrial Revenue Bond for Commercial Revitalization
Total \$375,000
Conformity

City of Fitchburg
Industrial Revenue Bond for Sanitoy, Inc.
Total \$950,000
Conformity

DECEMBER

City of Clinton
CDBG Imminent Threat Proposal \$250,000
Conformity

Commuter Rail Service to Gardner
MBTA \$980,000
Conformity

P U B L I C A T I O N S 1 9 7 9

TRANSPORTATION

1. High Accident Locations for the Montachusett Region for 1976, 1977, and 1978, December, 1979
2. Prospectus, April, 1979
3. Unified Work Program
4. Transportation Improvement Program, September, 1979
5. Clinton Early Output Study, May, 1979
6. Transportation Development Program Update
7. Annual Review Report, 1978-1979
8. Fitchburg-Leominster Early Output of the Montachusett Regional Transportation Plan, November, 1979

WATER QUALITY

1. Lake Management Program for South Meadow, Mossy and Coachlace Ponds
2. Montachusett-Nashua Areawide Water Quality Management Program, Final Environmental Impact Study, January, 1979
3. Draft Water Quality Management Plan for Ashburnham, Gardner, Hubbardston, Templeton and Winchendon, June, 1979
4. Water Quality Management Plan for Ashburnham, Gardner, Hubbardston, Templeton and Winchendon, December, 1979
5. Subsurface Inspection and Maintenance Program Technical Memoranda # 1 and 2
6. Septic System Inspection and Maintenance Brochure

HOUSING

1. Historic Architecture of the Montachusett Region April, 1979
2. Areawide Housing Opportunity Plan for the Montachusett Region, Summer, 1979

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